

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Free thinker
The Times Profile of Friedrich von Hayek
Kee words
James Fenton reviews The World We Fought For by Robert Kee
Hindsight
Ronald Butt on Neil Kinnock's attempt to draw lessons from the past
Test pilot
An interview with Allan Border, captain of Australia

Portfolio

There is £4,000 to be won in The Times Portfolio competition today - the daily prize of £2,000 is doubled because no one won yesterday. Portfolio list, page 20; how to play, Information Service, back page. On Saturday, £22,000 can be won - the weekly prize of £2,000, plus the daily £2,000.

Court told of taxi man's death

A 46lb concrete block which was thrown from a road bridge onto a taxi, carrying a working miner during the miners' strike, caused terrible injuries to the driver, from which he died. Cardiff Crown Court was told yesterday. **Page 3**

Lords defeat for Government

The Government suffered its first defeat in the House of Lords on the Local Government Bill which abolishes the GLC and the metropolitan county councils. A Conservative-backed and SDP amendment calling for a government report on steps by successor authorities to ensure protection and enjoyment of the countryside was carried by 152 to 135.

Wine bonus

Travellers abroad can bring home twice as much still table wine with the relaxation of Customs and Excise regulations. The new allowance of four litres of wine, with duty paid, is unaffected by purchase of duty-free spirits.

Girl recovers

Heather Price, aged 12, who was injured when a wave swept four of her school companions off a rock at Land's End, left hospital yesterday. **Back page**

Detainee dies

A black South African trade unionist died after being freed from detention. **Page 7**

Actress dies

Dawn Addams, one of Britain's most glamorous film stars of the 1950s, died yesterday after a five-month fight against cancer.

Enigma

Thousands are entering The Times' Codename Enigma Competition. Today's clue in the third of the series is in the Information Service on the back page.

SPECIAL REPORT

A new breed of executive capable of operating in any country is emerging, thanks to Europe's business schools. **Pages 20-21**

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Letters: On merchant shipping, from Mr A. W. Askew and Mr G. J. Bonwick; Mansion House plan, from Mr G. Stamp and Mr A. Eytan
Leading articles: VE Day; Scottish Tories
Features, pages 10, 11, 12
George Walden, MP, on the search for a Tory victory; David Felton on the political levy; Peter Kellner on Labour's 'demons'; Wednesday: Family in Crisis; Spectrum: Not all cream for the Duchy of Cornwall
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British Gas to be sold intact within two years

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

A massive share sale on the scale of British Telecom is expected within the next two years after the Government's announcement yesterday that it plans to privatize the whole of the British Gas Corporation "as speedily as possible".

The decision to bring the corporation into the private sector and sell it on the Stock Market was announced in the Commons by Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy. His statement confirms that the Government has rejected more radical plans for breaking up the corporation to generate more competition in the gas industry.

Although Mr Walker would not be drawn into giving any timetable for the sale, legislation is likely to be introduced before the end of this year, with the flotation following quickly, possibly as early as next summer.

British Gas made profits last year of slightly over £1,000 million, and it is arguably the single most profitable nationalized industry. Ministers are confident that the sale will raise several thousand million pounds, ranking with November's BT flotation which raised £3,900 million. Estimates of the likely value of the corporation range between £4,000 million and £9,000 million, although City analysts said last night that putting a realistic figure on the value of the business would not

be possible until the Government had clarified its plans for regulating the industry after it had been privatized.

Mr Walker told the Commons that privatizing British Gas would free it from bureaucratic intervention by the Government, and provide a real incentive for the management and employees to create a more efficient industry.

He confirmed that a new authority, similar to the Office of Telecommunications, would be set up to regulate gas prices and to ensure that the corporation did not abuse any "monopoly aspects" of its activities.

Mr Walker said that "generous provisions" would be included to encourage the 95,000 employees of British Gas to buy shares, and special arrangements would be made to induce gas consumers to take a stake.

Ministers have already made clear that they want to use privatization exercises to build on the success of the BT flotation in achieving wider share ownership. A record 2½ million people bought BT shares.

The Government's plans were attacked by Mr Stan Orme, Labour's energy spokesman, who said they would create "a massive new private monopoly out of publicly developed assets". There was

not "a shred of evidence" to suggest that gas consumers would be better off.

Although Mr Walker's statement was noticeably short on details, Department of Energy officials denied that the sale was being rushed. The Government's intention appears to be to sell 100 per cent of the corporation at one time, in contrast to most previous privatizations, where the Government has initially sold only half.

Payments for British Gas shares are likely to be spread over several years however, to make it easier for the stock market to absorb such a large package of new shares.

Mr Walker said that gas consumers would continue to pay a uniform tariff after the sale.

Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of British Gas, is expected to be asked to continue as chairman until after the sale.

He said last night: "The current proposals seem to recognize both the value of an integrated gas industry and the contribution made to its success by the workforce."

One British Gas has been privatized there will be nothing to stop it moving back into oil exploration or any other business it wanted, Mr Walker said. "British Gas will have as much freedom as any other private company".

Night battle rages in Beirut

From Beirut Fisk

After one of the fiercest nights of fighting in Beirut for almost a year - up to 2,500 shells and mortars were reported to have fallen on the Christian east of the city - Shia Muslim militiamen last night captured 100 yards of the front line in the city, capturing the ruins around the Tribunal Militaire and threatening the edge of the Christian Ashrafieh district.

If their advance represented yet further Syrian pressure on the Christian Phalangist militia, it also cost the lives of 28 people, most of them civilians, and at one point almost depopulated the Ras al-Nab district as the Muslim community there fled for their lives and return to their homes.

Throughout the night, huge explosions had vibrated across the city as Druze and Muslim militias poured shells and heavy calibre bullets from the muzzles of low-trajectory anti-aircraft guns across the city to the east.

Muslim radio stations later claimed that at least 600 shells had fallen on their sector of the capital.

While much of the fighting continues to take place in the sequestered gloom of the old front line, already devastated by 10 years of war, the shellfire yesterday morning embraced almost every residential area of the city.

President Gemayel's Army leadership called last night for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire but behind the front line in west Beirut, dozens of young gunmen wearing black scarves and identifying themselves as the "Islamic Forces" were preparing to move forward again. **Militia pressure, page 5**

Thatcher hits back at Kinnock on jobs

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday deflected Opposition attempts to exploit the anxiety in Conservative Party ranks over unemployment by quoting in the Commons extracts of Mr Peter Walker's Macleod lecture with which she could happily concur.

Aware of mounting disquiet among her backbenchers, heightened by the results of the shire county elections, the Prime Minister went into question time armed with a copy of the last Thursday speech of her Secretary of State for Energy, which has been seen as his most explicit display of disquiet to date and which has received backing from MPs not normally associated with his viewpoint.

The speech was raised twice, first by Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool, Mossley Hill, and later by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and on both occasions Mrs Thatcher had passages from the Walker speech to hand to fire back at them.

To Mr Alton she quoted with approval Mr Walker's statement that an inflationary pay round, unlikely to productivity, would do immense damage to Britain's economic opportunity. To Mr Kinnock, who had paraphrased Mr Walker as remarking that people were more than consumers, she repeated the part of his speech devoted to a strong attack on the Labour Party.

The changes were seen by Conservative MPs as evidence of Mrs Thatcher's sensitivity to renewed internal criticism, set off by the coincidence of the unexpected rise in the jobs figures, Mr Walker's intervention and the shire county election results. That concern was given

further public expression yesterday by Mr David Howell, the former minister, who criticized the Government and Mrs Thatcher over their unemployment policies for continuing to play "the old cassette" and called for "fresh language and fresh understanding".

If Mrs Thatcher appeared to be on the defensive over internal disagreements in her party, Dr David Owen gave her the opening to go on the attack with her MPs in full voice when he said she exercised power with the support of a minority of the population and said that people were increasingly fed up with her hegemonic style.

Mr Alton: Question of productivity.

The Prime Minister retorted that he had become the arch example of the hegemonic style.

Mrs Thatcher said that Dr Owen was seeking an absolute veto, almost absolute power, with a smaller minority. Labour's 1 per cent lead over the Conservatives in the opinion polls in the middle of April had vanished by the end of the month, according to the latest survey by Mori for The London Standard. **Parliament, page 4**



Nancy's Old: Mrs Nancy Reagan flamenco dancing at the Royal School of Dance and Dramatic Arts in Madrid yesterday. "I think she has great rhythm - fantastic," said Queen Sofia of Spain. "It was fun," said Señora

Carmen Romero de González, who comes from southern Andalusia, the home of flamenco, and is the wife of the Prime Minister. The three women later dined at the Casa Botín, one of Ernest Hemingway's favourite restaurants.

NatWest to increase home rates

By Richard Thomson

National Westminster yesterday became the first of the clearing banks to announce a rise in its mortgage rate following the building society increases last month. NatWest is the largest mortgage lender among the banks, with loans worth over £3 billion to 120,000 borrowers.

From June 1 its rate will increase by 0.625 of a percentage point to 13.5 per cent, involving an extra monthly cost of about 31p for each £1,000 borrowed. But the move will mean that NatWest, which does not charge extra for larger loans, will still charge less than building societies.

At present, Lloyds and Barclays charge 13.25 per cent on most loans and Midland charges 13.5 per cent.

NatWest's increase reflects a realization that building society rates, which went up roughly 1 percentage point to about 14 per cent on April 1, are unlikely to fall soon.

The societies have suffered from unusually low net deposit inflows over the past four months and expect to receive only £250 million this month. They need \$300 million in net deposits each month to meet mortgage demand fully. Most of the competition for deposits has come from the high interest rates of the clearing banks.

Money rise sharpest in five years

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent

The sharpest rise in money supply for five years shook the City yesterday and ruled out any further falls in interest rates for some time.

The sterling M3 measure of money supply rose by 24.3 per cent last month, the biggest monthly rise since July 1980. The Government therefore failed by a wide margin to hit its target for sterling M3, the most-watched money supply measure.

Money supply growth in the 1984-85 target period, which ended last month, was 12 per cent, compared with a 6 to 10 per cent target range.

Bank lending rose by £1.6 billion, around £1 billion of which may have been accounted for by firms rushing to push through capital investment before the end of the financial year, and so take advantage of more generous capital allowances. A spokesman for the Treasury said: "The bank lending figures show that the cautious approach to interest rates remains right".

The most dramatic impact in the City was on gilt-edged securities, with long-dated stocks plunging by over £1. The Financial Times 30-share index fell 4.1 to 985.8. **Kenneth Fleet, page 15**

Gorbachov and Reagan pledge fight for peace

By Nicholas Ashford and Anthony Bevis

The anniversary of peace in Europe 40 years ago has allowed both superpower leaders, President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, to suggest methods of avoiding a future conflagration in the area.

In a major address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg today, Mr Reagan will outline a "definitive framework" for future relations between the US and the Soviet Union.

Mr Gorbachov, meanwhile, has told Mrs Margaret Thatcher in a special VE Day anniversary message that he is prepared to work with her in the fight against war.

According to a senior Administration official who briefed journalists in Madrid, Mr Reagan will deal in his speech with the Geneva arms talks, the need for the Soviet Union to comply with arms agreements, his Star Wars space defence programme and the need for genuine peace between the superpowers.

He will also put forward four proposals for reducing tension between Washington and Moscow.

These will include seeking agreement on a Soviet proposal for the non-use of force, a "hot line" between the Pentagon and the Soviet Defence Ministry, exchange of observers at military exercises, and

regular contacts between military leaders.

He will also give a warning, however, that the planned deployment of the Soviet SS24 missile, which would be mobile and have multiple warheads, could undermine stability.

Mr Reagan's speech, already seen as one of the most important of his presidency, would set the framework for US-Soviet relations for the rest of the twentieth century, the official said.

In his message to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Gorbachov said: "The experience which the peoples of our countries lived through shows that war should be fought against before it breaks out."

"To prevent a new world war, a climate of trust and mutual understanding among peoples is urgently needed, as well as consistent efforts by all states aimed at stopping a dangerous build-up of nuclear arms, preventing the militarization of space, and removing the military threat hanging over the world."

"The Soviet Union is prepared to cooperate with Great Britain - its former ally in the anti-Hitlerite coalition - in achieving these noble goals."

In her exchange message, the Prime Minister specifically acknowledged "our mutual desire for security and lasting peace."

Challenge to Reagan, page 6

Spain, US agree to early talks on bases

From Nicholas Ashford and Richard Wigg, Madrid

President Reagan yesterday agreed to a Spanish request to make an early start on talks on the future of the US military presence in Spain.

Preliminary discussions through diplomatic channels will start shortly, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, told journalists following lengthy talks between President Reagan and Señor Felipe González, Spain's Prime Minister.

The two leaders agreed to disagree on US policy towards the left-wing Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

After a working lunch at the Prime Minister's office in the Moncloa Palace, Señor González diplomatically explained that there had been "differences of appreciation" about the US approach to Nicaragua, which is viewed here as being unnecessarily belligerent.

Both sides said they shared similar objectives in Central America, but they differed over ways to achieve them.

Both support democratic pluralism and the Contadora peace process. However, Spain is opposed to the recently announced US trade embargo against Nicaragua, which, it feels, will drive the Sandinistas

closer towards the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Mr Shultz admitted that there were "differences of analysis over the degree to which it is now clear that the Communist government of Nicaragua is moving in the Soviet direction. Spain questions this, but it seems pretty clear to us."

President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said to hold talks with Spanish leaders when he makes a stop over here on Saturday at the end of a controversial tour of Eastern block countries.

Mr Shultz said he expected that the US's views would be made clear to Señor Ortega, but said President Reagan had not left a special message to be passed on to him.

The President's talks with Señor González were the high point of a hectic two-day visit to Spain during which he also had discussions with King Juan Carlos and Señor Manuel Fraga, Spain's right-wing opposition leader.

His visit has been accompanied by almost continuous street demonstrations by left-wing and pacifist groups protesting his presence and Spain's membership of Nato.

Continued on back page, col 8

VE-Day remembrance to be mixed with carnival

By Alan Hamilton

Forty years ago today Winston Churchill stood on a balcony in Whitehall and proclaimed to a seething, jubilant mass of Londoners below: "This is your victory."

Although the Government has agreed to an official celebration only with reluctance, the people whose victory it was intended that the fortieth anniversary of victory in Europe should be a day of remembrance mixed with carnival.

At the express wish of the Prime Minister the nation's

sole official act of commemoration, a service in Westminster Abbey, will play down any pomp or rejoicing and will set as its tone a thanksgiving for deliverance from the Nazi evil and for 40 years of peace on the Continent.

The Queen will be present, the Duke of Edinburgh will read the lesson and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, has cut short his Australian tour to deliver the address. All the abbey's 2,000 seats will be taken by ex-servicemen and representatives of other organizations associated with the war effort, from consanguineous to trade unions. There are no seats for the public.

But the service, which begins at 11.30am, will be broadcast live on radio and television, and there will be a ceremonial guard outside the abbey.

Those who died will be remembered by a number of simple and solemn acts. This morning members of the Jewish community, led by the Chief Rabbi, Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, will lay a wreath at the Holocaust Memorial in Hyde Park.

At 4 pm, members of the British War Widows' Association will lay a wreath at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, followed an hour later by

Healey at Soviet celebrations

Moscow - Mr Denis Healey, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, arrived last night in Moscow to attend Soviet VE Day celebrations on behalf of the Labour Party and said it was regrettable that the British Government had not sent a representative (Richard Owen writes).

Britain will be represented at

members of the United Nations Association. The association has invited diplomats from all countries involved in the conflict to witness the flying of the blue UN flag and the public reading of the preamble to the charter of the United Nations, formed at Central Hall, Westminster, in the immediate aftermath of the war.

At least one wreath has already been laid. Members of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament held a brief ceremony at the Cenotaph yesterday. The wording on their wreath is: "Save the world they fought for."

Both main television channels have programmes to mark the day. The BBC will screen an extended edition of *Breakfast Time* and will show the

today's wreath laying and Kremlin ceremonies, and tomorrow's military parade by Sir Iain Sutherland, the British Ambassador, and Lady Sutherland.

The American Ambassador and some other Nato envoys are not attending the parade.

Britain breaks ranks, page 6
Leading article, page 13

Westminster Abbey service live, ITV, in the biggest foreign newsgathering operation ITN has ever mounted, will screen a five-hour programme throughout the morning with live coverage of celebrations in other European countries.

On BBC Radio 4 at 3pm the Queen will for the first time publicly recall her memories of VE-Day, when she stood on the balcony of Buckingham Palace cracked by a Luftwaffe bomb five years earlier. She was wearing the uniform of the Auxiliary Territorial Service and was flanked by King George VI, Queen Elizabeth, Princess Margaret and Churchill.

That same evening the future queen donned a headscarf and mingled anonymously with the kissing, hugging, celebrating

crowds in The Mall. On that day in 1945, millions of people took to the streets, united in a common relief.

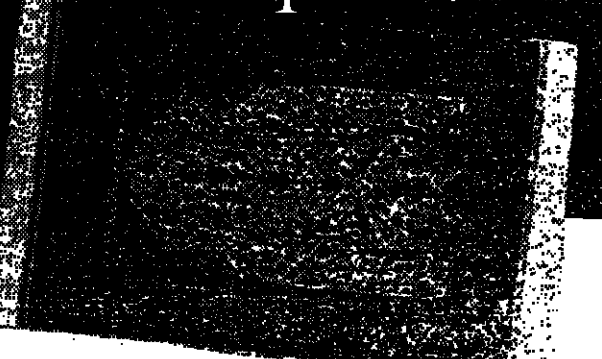
They had heard Churchill's broadcast that the surrender had been signed at 2.41am the previous day at Luneberg Heath, and his momentous announcement: "Hostilities will end officially at one minute after midnight tonight (May 8) but in the interests of saving lives the ceasefire began yesterday to be sounded all along the front, and our dear Channel Islands are also to be freed today."

The spirit of carnival that the historic broadcast unleashed will in some measure be repeated today. The Greater London Council has lavished £175,000 on a day-long entertainment centred on Jubilee Gardens by County Hall, beginning with the release of 15,000 balloons each bearing a dove of peace, proceeding through a day of 1940s dance music and ending with a 20-minute fireworks display from a barge moored in the Thames opposite the gardens.

Credit for changing the Government's mind and ensuring that the anniversary will be well marked belongs largely to the Royal British Legion, the

Continued on back page, col 5

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Two more pits to close and 3,000 jobs go in North-east

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Another two pits are to be closed since the National Coal Board announced the suspension of the colliery review procedure, according to union sources.

About 3,000 jobs are to be lost in the North-east of England with the rundown of the loss-making Horden Colliery in county Durham and Bates in Northumberland, together with the Whitburn workshops on South Tyneside.

The news came last night as leaders of the pit deputies' union met management in London to protest over the closure of Bedwas colliery in South Wales and the Frances complex in Scotland.

The National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers is to hold a ballot on an overtime ban in protest at the Coal Board's alleged refusal to honour an agreement on pit closures. Members begin voting on Friday. The board has said that all deals on pit closures have been suspended in order to assess damage caused by the year-long strike by the National Union of Mineworkers.

The plan to close the additional pits will boost militants' demands for a Yes vote in the ballot. Action by the deputies would hit severely the industry's recovery after the strike.

Mr Dennis Murphy, leader of the Northumberland pitmen said after a meeting with the board officials in Durham yesterday, that they intended to turn the two collieries into "labour reservoirs". This meant

that all the workers concerned would be moved out as soon as alternative jobs could be found and the plants concerned would be closed probably by next Christmas.

The redundancies would come in an area hit by 18.3 per cent unemployment - one of the highest in Britain.

Production from Britain's coal mines has now reached almost 75 per cent of normal levels with deliveries to pit-head and power station coal stocks increasing daily (David Young writes).

Before the year-long miners' strike output from the deep mines was running at about two million tonnes a week with pithead stocks at 12 million tonnes. Present output is now nearing 1.5 million tonnes weekly with pithead stocks at over 18 million tonnes.

Two months after the end of the pit strike, there is still no end in sight to the continuing seizure of the NUM's assets under a court order.

The sequestrators appointed by the High Court to take control of the union's finances back yesterday to the judge who appointed them, Mr Justice Nicholls.

It is understood that, without fresh moves from the union to purge its contempt of court, the sequestrators see no immediate end to their task. No such move has been forthcoming despite a recent NUM vote to return funds sent abroad to escape seizure by the courts during the strike.

Government curbs cut overspend to £150m

By Hugh Clayton
Local Government Correspondent

Tougher government clamps on councils have cut this year's overspend in England and Wales to less than a quarter of last year's levels, the Labour-dominated Association of Local Authorities said yesterday.

Research staff with the association reported that most councils which had disclosed their spending plans for the coming year were spending a total of about £150 million above the targets fixed by ministers. The comparable figure last year was more than £250 million.

"This is by far the closest that local authorities' expenditure has come to the Government's target since the Government came to power", research staff reported to a meeting of the policy committees of the association.

"Local authority budgets at this stage are looking as if they will come close enough to aggregate targets to allow the Government's plan to abolish targets and penalties to be taken seriously."

Mr Steve Hughes, research officer with the association, said afterwards that the £150 million figure was not final because some councils had not submitted returns. The final "overspend" was certain to be far less than last year's.

The association predicted that abolition of spending targets by the Government next year would not necessarily ease curbs on inner city authorities because there would be other ways for the Government to push spending down.



The Prime Minister with Ben White, aged five, from Croydon, Surrey, who is deaf, at a House of Commons party yesterday for handicapped children. (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Teachers to meet employers tomorrow

By Lucy Hodges

Local authority employers are to hold informal talks with teachers' unions tomorrow and have agreed to abide by the National Union of Teachers' condition that they be confined to the issue of this year's pay claim.

But the union has rejected an offer from the employers and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, for joint talks with him tomorrow evening.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the union, said that there was no point in a joint approach to Sir Keith until after the full Burnham pay negotiating committee meeting on May 15, the first time the two sides will have come together for three months.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said that it was "very, very ill-judged" to reject an opportunity to see Sir Keith.

Informal sources were emphasizing yesterday that the informal talks tomorrow and the later Burnham meeting were most unlikely to lead to a settlement of the pay dispute. The most that could be expected was a full resumption of talks.

The management's acceptance of the NUT's insistence that only this year's pay claim can be discussed and that there must be no talk of the employers' restructuring package shows the importance the management attaches to getting back to the negotiating table.

As one official put it: "If the only way of getting together to talk is to accept a daft condition, the management will accept the daft condition."

The proposal for informal talks was put forward yesterday by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, and the Association of County Councils' representatives agreed after considering it.

Sir John Wordie, chairman of the Burnham committee, is to chair tomorrow's talks.

Accusation of bias rejected by BBC

By Ronald Fair

The BBC has rejected allegations that its coverage of Scotland is biased against the Conservative Party. Complaints came after a discussion programme on BBC television in Scotland about the rates, the hottest political issue north of the border, that has roused criticism even from within Tory ranks.

Mr Michael Forsyth, Conservative MP for Stirling, has complained to Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC board of governors, and to Mr Giles Shaw, Home Office minister responsible for broadcasting, about the "cavalier" attitude of Mr Pat Chalmers, controller of BBC Scotland, in his response to the party's complaints.

Mr Chalmers offered to withdraw television and radio coverage of the Tory Party conference in Perth this week because of the accusations that his staff could not be relied upon to give unbiased reports.

The Conservatives had complained that Sir James Gould, chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party, and Mr Forsyth were ignored for 35 minutes of the all-party television debate. Mr Forsyth added that BBC Scotland news programmes were consistently biased against the Conservatives.

Yesterday the BBC replied that the regular news programmes *Good Morning Scotland*, *Lunchtime Report* and *Good Evening Scotland* and the weekend comment programme, *Seven Days*, provided a balanced report of the Conservative views over a period.

But Mr Forsyth said: "No attempt was made on the television programme to explain that there was a full Conservative presence, and it was not announced that Sir James Gould was the chairman of the party in Scotland or that I was an MP." Mr Gordon Wilson (Scottish National Party), Mr Ronald Dewar, representing Labour, and Mr Russell Johnston (Alliance) also took part.

Print union votes to keep political fund

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The trade union campaign to win membership support for maintenance of their political funds received a psychological boost yesterday when the first union ballot, its members reported a large majority in favour of retaining a political fund.

Members of the printing union Sogat voted by a 3-1 majority to continue operating a political fund which is used to provide finance for the Labour Party. The Sogat result is important because the union was thought to be one of 10 whose political funds were most at risk in the ballots.

The 58 unions with political funds are required to ballot their members before next March under the terms of the Trade Union Act 1984. The labour movement has mounted a large campaign to win the ballots because almost 80 per cent of the party's income could be at risk.

Sogat's ballot result, which showed a vote of 91,760 to 25,947 in favour of maintaining a political fund, was said by union officials to have been a surprise.

The vote was presented last night as a considerable flip-flop to the union campaign which will run throughout the summer.

Mr Bill Keys, chairman of the union co-ordinating committee organizing the campaign, said that the legislation could backfire against the Government and lead to a greater willingness by union members to become involved in political affairs.

First eviction

The National Trust yesterday won a High Court order evicting squatters from Sutton House in Hackney, east London. At a private hearing in London, Mr Justice First granted the trust an order giving it possession of the property, parts of which date back to the sixteenth century.

Two members of UDR given prison terms

Two members of the Ulster Defence Regiment received prison sentences yesterday after admitting terrorist offences in Northern Ireland.

Alastair McKendry, aged 21, a part-time member of the regiment, pleaded guilty to being a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force, the outlawed "loyalist" paramilitary group active in the Ballymena area of Co Antrim in 1982-83. He had been sworn into the organization in Belfast and had supplied weapons used in an armed robbery.

McKendry, from Broughshane, Co Antrim, was jailed for five years when he pleaded guilty at Belfast Crown Court to taking part in the robbery.

Paul Alexander, aged 21, also from Broughshane and a member of McKendry's UDR platoon, received an 18-month sentence suspended for two years, for possession of a weapon and ammunition.

"They want British policy to be exclusively security-centred and they seek to provoke over-reaction, because only in those circumstances can they hope to prevail."

The Dublin government has made "a considerable political and psychological leap" in acknowledging the "Ulster nationalist ethos and identity and the need for their accommodation by agreement," he said. It was now for the British Government to respond by implementing the principle agreed at the Chequers summit in November that the identity of the nationalist community also should be respected and reflected in the structures and processes of Northern Ireland.

Correction

The castle illustrated in the Special Report on the Channel Islands on May 3 was Mont Orgueil Castle, Grouville, Jersey, four miles from St Helier.

Infection risk from heated whirlpools

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Government health officials are studying the risks of infections being spread through bathing in heated whirlpools, such as Jacuzzis.

Some bathers have developed a severe rash which takes up to 10 days to disappear and for which there is no effective treatment, and doctors are now warning that more outbreaks are likely.

The rash is caused by a bacterium which flourishes in hot water and multiplies rapidly because the turbulent water and heat make it difficult to maintain effective disinfectant levels.

The first serious outbreak of the infection was reported in the *British Medical Journal* last month, when a small group of friends developed a widespread eruption over the torso and limbs after using a whirlpool in an hotel in East Anglia.

Officials at Public Health Laboratories in Reading and Nottingham are studying the infections and are asking for details of more cases to be sent to them. The Public Health Laboratory at Dulwich Hospital, south-east London, is suggesting that local authorities check disinfectant monitoring equipment at whirlpools.

The infection, *Pseudomonas folliculitis*, is more likely to be seen as bathing in whirlpools becomes more popular, staff at the Reading and Nottingham laboratories warn in the current issue of the BMJ.

Doctors should recognise whirlpool-associated infections so that action can be taken by environmental health officers to sustain adequate standards of maintenance, according to microbiologists at St Helier Hospital in Carshalton, in Surrey, writing in the same issue.

Big stores hit by upsurge in shop-lifting

By Patience Wheatcroft

Two of Britain's biggest retailers yesterday reported that their stores were being hit by an upsurge in theft and violence.

Lord Rayner, chairman of Marks & Spencer, said the need to employ uniformed security guards had added £1½ million to the wages bill.

Sir Maurice Hodgson, chairman of British Home Stores, said shop theft had risen "to an alarming extent" and it was increasingly accompanied by violence.

"It presents a major obstacle to providing value for money products in an attractive and friendly environment," he said.

"Shrinkage", as the retail trade traditionally refers to shop-lifting, is generally thought to run at between 1 per cent and 2 per cent of sales. Now it was apparently beyond that range in many stores. Although neither BHS nor M&S would quantify the extent of the situation both said the increase in the past year had been extraordinary. London had suffered more organized crime than most areas of the country.

The two companies highlighted their theft difficulties as they reported 1984/5 profits yesterday. Marks & Spencer made £303.4 million with sales up in every department, although women's fashions were still causing the company trouble because of the challenge of new chainstores such as Next. BHS profits were up to £61 million, with the company doing particularly well on the clothing side.

Treasury is rebuked over Hansard

The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr Bernard Weatherill, yesterday rebuked the Treasury for tampering with an MP's mail and ordered Hansard, the Official Report, to be altered.

He ruled that the Treasury should not have substituted its written answers to Mr Anthony Blair, an Opposition Treasury spokesman.

Mr Blair, Labour MP for Sedgefield, had complained in the Commons on Friday that the original answers to his questions to the Chancellor of the Exchequer about whether there had been disclosures of departures from normal banking practice in the Bank of England's inquiries into John-Matthew Bankers had been withdrawn from his letter board, the Hansard office and the Press Gallery by a Treasury official and substituted with a bland holding reply.

Increased worker participation urged

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Companies must do much more to involve employees in their activities, Mr John Cassels, director general of the National Economic Development Office, said yesterday.

Although he acknowledged a deep-seated fear within industry of statutory workers' democracy and accepted that at present legislation would not make industry more effective, he referred glowingly to worker participation in Japan, West Germany and the United States.

There were signs that British

Top Nazi files stay secret

By Henry Stanhope

The Government is refusing to release secret Foreign Office files on two Nazi war criminals, Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz "doctor of death", and Klaus Barbie, the Lyons Gestapo chief.

The decision was announced yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who rejected a demand in the Commons that the files should be published in the week of VE Day.

The Foreign Office last year refused a request to release its file on Barbie to the United States, whose intelligence services are said to have used the so-called "butcher of Lyons" for four years after the second World War.

Barbie is also thought to have had contacts with British agents, and Mrs Thatcher's response during question time in the Commons, will encourage suspicion of a similar embarrassment over Mengele.

Lady Young, Minister of State at the Foreign Office,

wrote to Sir Gerard Vaughan, Conservative MP for Reading East, in March, explaining that a file on Barbie was not being released in the Public Record Office because of "sensitive material". Mrs Thatcher yesterday would say only that there were "good reasons" for the decision.

Barbie is in prison in the French city of Lyons, awaiting trial for war crimes. But Mengele, who carried out genetic experiments on prisoners, is thought to be living under an assumed name in Paraguay.

The United States recently announced that federal agents were to make a determined effort to track down Mengele, the most significant Nazi war criminal still at large.

Mr Reg Freeson, Labour MP for Brent East, asked the Prime Minister if it would not be appropriate to release the files this week.

Disabled veteran breaks silence

By Patricia Clough

For 40 years Walter Jackson, a private in the Second World War, had wrapped himself in silence, speaking hardly a word and refusing to talk about the war. The institutions where he spent his life knew little about him. In his medical records was only a guess: shellshock.

Private Jackson, now aged 70, was obsessed with work. Above all, he would go round emptying things: ashtrays, cans, buckets. If anyone asked him why, he would say: "have to, have to."

Last week, at Kingswood Grange Veterans Home, in Surrey, he suddenly broke his silence: "Saint Valery" (Normandy landings), "13A Staling" (German prisoner-of-war camp).

"Emptying sugar beet, emptying sugar beet. Off wagons. Didn't want to work. Three Germans came at me with fixed bayonets."

He pointed to his sightless left eye. "Lost it welding. German guard drew revolver at me, made me work. Start welding again. I sabotaged."

Customs seize £2m drugs

Customs officers yesterday seized cannabis worth £2 million after keeping watch as it was loaded from a sea going vessel to a small fishing boat off the coast of Cornwall. (Our Crime Reporter, writes).

The Customs officers, aided by two cutters, seized 800 kilograms of cannabis resin from North Africa after the two boats put into Falmouth harbour. The investigators moved in at the end of a three-week inquiry.

Customs men waited as the *Stirling*, a 30ft ketch, met the *Nautilus* fishing boat. The investigators allowed the crews to transfer their cargo and followed as the boats then sailed into port.

Last night customs officers were questioning four Britons held after the seizures. More than 35 officers were involved in the operation, code-named Operation Kismet.

Driver jailed for attack

James Temple, aged 26, a van driver, of Willesden, London, was jailed for 12 years at Winchester Crown Court yesterday for grievous bodily harm attempted - rape and robbery, after an attack on a German schoolteacher aged 58, in the New Forest last August.

Part of the evidence which convicted him was from his van's tachograph, which recorded the exact distance from a delivery to the scene of the attack.

Theatre director wins damages

Undisclosed damages accepted by Mr Isaac Louis Benjamin, a director of Stoll Moss Theatres, owners of a number of West End theatres, will be paid to charity. The High Court in London was told yesterday.

Mr Benjamin had brought a libel action to clear his name of allegations which a theatrical producer, John Gale, admitted having made in a letter to six people in the theatre world.

OLD ROLEX WRISTWATCHES BOUGHT

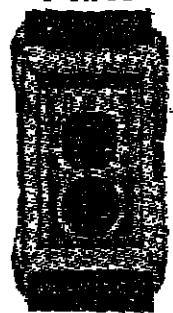
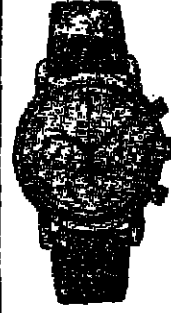
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Miner's taxi driver killed in minutes by 46lb concrete block, QC says

A Cardiff Crown Court jury was told yesterday of the fatal injuries suffered by a taxi driver when a 46lb concrete block smashed through his windscreen as he drove a working miner to his pit during the height of the coal strike.

But Mr Martin Thomas, QC, for the prosecution, said the rights and wrongs of the strike were not in question as the trial of three miners on a murder charge started.

Mr Thomas said: "We have heard much in these last few months of the right to strike, and right to work. You are concerned with rights that have been held in all ages and all civilisations to be fundamental. The right of these men to a fair and unprejudiced trial, and the right of David Wilkie simply to be alive."

Mr Thomas said that Mr Wilkie, aged 35, father of three, died on the morning of November 30 last year as, flanked by a police escort, he was driving Mr David Williams to work from his home at Rhymney, Mid Glamorgan, to the Merthyr Vale colliery.

He told the jury: "It makes no difference that they were striking miners who were trying to stop what they regarded as a strike breaker. Because a man decided to go into work for whatever reason, through choice or conviction, or even, in some cases, out of necessity, that man does not lose the protection of law."

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

"He doesn't become what was called in medieval times an outlawed person who can be attacked with impunity, nor are the people who attacked him in any different position before the law than anyone else."

The three men Reginald Dean Hancock, aged 21, of Rhymney Bridge, Russell Shankland, aged 21, of Manest Street, and Anthony Glyndwr Williams, aged 26, of Ty Coch, all of Rhymney, plead not guilty to murder. A plea by Mr Hancock of guilty to manslaughter was not accepted by the crown.

The jury was shown photographs of Mr Wilkie's taxi after it had been hit by a 165lb concrete block which smashed into Mr Wilkie after being thrown on to the car from a 27ft-high road bridge.

Mr Thomas said that after smashing the glass and denting the steering wheel, the concrete block hit Mr Wilkie. "It smashed the lower part of his jaw, fractured his skull, caved in his chest, and his heart and lungs were torn. He could not have survived those injuries for more than a few minutes."

Mr Thomas said that on the morning of the alleged murder the three men had met at Mr Hancock's home and had walked up to the road bridge picking up the concrete post on the way. Further along, they saw a concrete pipe, and according to Anthony Williams, it was

suggested he should carry it but he refused. They got the concrete block from the side of the bridge which crosses the Heads of the Valleys Road.

The taxi with Mr David Williams sitting in the back seat, was travelling at between 30mph and 45mph when it approached the bridge. Mr Thomas said: "It was led by a police motor cyclist and Land Rover and followed by a van containing policemen."

Mr Thomas said that six days before the killing Mr Hancock had approached Mr David Williams at his home in Rhymney, and shouted "you scabby bastard," as he threw a bottle which smashed against the house.

He was arrested, and while being questioned his behaviour became aggressive and he said: "We'll get the bastard. We'll have him."

After the act, Mr Thomas said, the three men ran away together across the mountain to Tredegar where Mr Thomas said Mr Hancock told his girlfriend, "I think we have killed someone."

Mr Thomas said that under police questioning, Mr Shankland said they had not intended to kill anyone, only to frighten them. He agreed that it had been he and Hancock who had dropped the concrete and that Anthony Williams had not been involved. The hearing continues today.



Mr Sam Bateman (top) collecting from drivers yesterday on the eighteenth-century Thames toll bridge at Swinford, Oxfordshire. The bridge, whose income is tax-free, is for sale at about £275,000. (Photographs: Warren Harrison).

Appeal by Posgate on ruling by Lloyd's

By Alison Eadie

Mr Ian Posgate, the former Lloyd's underwriter who was so successful in the insurance market he became known as "Goldfinger", has been found not guilty by a Lloyd's disciplinary committee of misappropriating funds dishonestly, plundering a re-insurance company for personal benefit, and seriously falsifying group accounts by shuffling figures.

Allegations had been made that \$55 million had been misappropriated from the Alexander Howden Group by five key defendants, of whom Mr Posgate was one.

Although he was acquitted on six charges, he was found guilty on three others. They were: being given a Picasso painting by Mr Kenneth Grob, chairman of the insurance broker Alexander Howden, where Mr Posgate worked as underwriter, in order to persuade Mr Posgate to place re-insurance business through the firm; being given, through a trust, 10 per cent of the shares in the Banque du Rhone et de la Tamise, again to influence Mr Posgate's placing of re-insurance business; and, thirdly, of not correcting a statement made by Mr Grob at an extraordinary meeting of Howden shareholders, that no directors held interests in the Banque du Rhone. Mr Posgate was a director of Alexander Howden.

The Lloyd's committee recommended expelling Mr Posgate for life from the insurance market. Mr Posgate is fighting not just the sentence, but the findings of the committee. His appeal began yesterday in public in front of Lord Wilberforce.

Speaking on his behalf, Mr Robert Alexander QC said Mr Posgate viewed the gifts of the painting and shares as a "golden ball and chain", or as an inducement to stay with the Howden group, and not leave for another job.

Appeal on Jamaica death sentence fails

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A woodworker, aged 26, sentenced to death in Jamaica for murder, had his appeal rejected yesterday by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London.

Frank Robinson now has one last chance for his life to be saved, according to Mr Robin Lloyds, the solicitor who prepared his case in Britain. The constitution provides for the prerogative of mercy to be exercised by the Governor General acting on the recommendation of the Privy Council of Jamaica.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London serves as a final court of appeal in several Commonwealth countries.

Its decision was by a majority of three to two, with a dissenting judgement by Lord Scarman and Lord Edmund Davies. The majority were Lord Roskill, Lord Keith of Kinkel and Lord Templeman.

Robinson and Anthony Gibson were convicted of the murder of Massington Reid on August 2, 1978, and sentenced to death. The prosecution case

rested almost entirely on the evidence of a man named Wilbert Irving, Lord Roskill stated in delivering the majority judgement.

Special leave was given to Robinson to appeal on grounds that he had not been legally represented at his trial.

"Their lordships were told that it would have been open to the appellant at any time after his arrest to seek legal aid but that he did not do so. It is therefore apparent that he chose to be represented by

counsel who would require to be paid either by him or on his behalf."

At the trial, counsel left their client unrepresented. The ostensible reason for their absence was that "full instructions had not been given" - a euphemism for the fact that those financing Robinson's defence had not provided funds.

Amnesty International said last night it would be taking up Frank Robinson's case, as it does with all people threatened with the death penalty.

NHS road accident fees increased

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

National Health Service charges to motorists and their insurers for treating the victims of road accidents have been increased by more than 16 per cent, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, announced yesterday.

But the Government is to legislate "at the earliest convenient opportunity" to abolish the smallest of the fees, for emergency treatment.

The moves follow a Rayner efficiency scrutiny, which has been with ministers for more than two-and-a-half years and recommended abolishing the fees as being "anachronistic, discriminatory, anomalous and wasteful of scarce staff and management resources".

The report argued that the NHS does not levy charges for accidents at home, at work or in sport which cost it more. In 1981 only £3.8 million out of a potential £7.6 million was collected when road accidents cost the NHS more than £90 million.

The charges come in three forms: the emergency treatment fee, increased from £10.90 to £13.32 from April 1, collectable from the user of the vehicle regardless of fault in patient charges, increased from a maximum of £1,525 to £1,777 and outpatient charges from up to £152.50 to £177, but only

where a third-party payment is made for the death or injury of an accident victim.

Mr Clarke said that the emergency treatment fee produced ill-feeling and administrative difficulties which did not justify the comparatively small sums involved.

The Government would legislate to abolish it, but would meanwhile increase it in line with inflation since it was last raised in October 1982.

The scrutiny found that the £3.8 million raised in 1981-82 cost almost £1 million to collect and it could take 12 months or more to obtain the money. In only 12 per cent of cases where follow-up inpatient or outpatient treatments were given did an injured party eventually receive a third-party payment, allowing the health authority to charge and collect.

Legislation allowing hospitals to charge was introduced in the 1930s to reimburse voluntary and local authority hospitals for treating accident victims from outside their catchment areas.

The scrutiny report says that legislation "creates numerous anomalies between different groups of road users", with the bulk of the recoverable income dependent on casualties being able successfully to prosecute third-party claims against insurers.

North has first heart transplant

A mother aged 35 became the north's first heart transplant patient yesterday after a six-hour operation. It is the first in Britain to be performed away from Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, or Harefield Hospital, west London.

Last night the woman was recovering in the intensive care unit of the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne.

The hospital became the third centre for heart transplant surgery when doctors made a 400-mile round trip to collect the donor organ from Crewe in Cheshire. The surgeon in charge, Mr Christopher McGregor, was flown to and from Tyneside by an RAF helicopter from Bulmer and carried the heart in a refrigerated box.

Driving ban on Jim Davidson

Jim Davidson, the comedian was yesterday fined £700 by Chertsey magistrates in Surrey, on six charges including resisting arrest after refusing to take a breath test and for unlawfully having in his car a pistol given to him by troops when he entertained in the Falklands.

Davidson, aged 31, of Wexmouth, Surrey, who admitted all charges, was also disqualified from driving for 15 months.

Innocent man held 5 months

Mark Speed, aged 21, of Third Avenue, Teignmouth, Devon, who was wrongly accused of a petrol bombing attack on council offices in Teignmouth, spent five months in Exeter Remand Centre before the case against him was dropped.

His lawyers had made four unsuccessful attempts to have him freed on bail. Cases against three men accused of arson are proceeding.

Duke's portrait is banned

Mr Dave Short, aged 43, the Sheriff-elect of Gloucester has demanded that a portrait of the late Duke of Beaufort, former Master of the Queen's Horse, should be removed from the sheriff's office in the Guildhall.

Mr Short, an atheist, who has already announced that he would not attend religious services, said yesterday that he had nothing against the late duke personally but was totally opposed to blood sports.

Countess loses chance of £1m

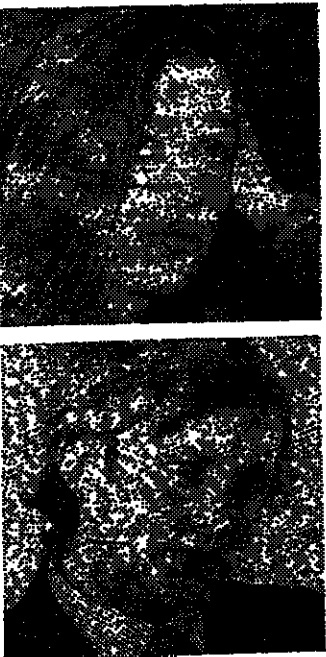
An American-born countess yesterday lost the chance of a £1 million settlement when her husband abandoned his action for divorce in which he was claiming adultery by her.

Lady Cassillis, aged 24, was claiming a weekly maintenance allowance, as well as the £1 million lump sum in the case in the Court of Session in Edinburgh.

Instead, the case was dismissed and she was awarded custody of her two daughters, and just £10 a week maintenance for each child.

Lord Cassillis, aged 28, left to seek work in Australia last month after his seed and fertilizer firm went into receivership. He and Lady Cassillis had been granted legal aid to fight the divorce, although Lord Cassillis is heir to the reputed £25 million fortune of Lord Ailsa, his father.

Mr Hugh Campbell, QC, for Lord Cassillis, said that when it became clear hopes of a settlement with his estranged wife were not going to succeed,



Lord and Lady Cassillis: Court case abandoned.

he took the view he must seek employment and left for Australia.

● In 1983 a divorce action brought by Lady Cassillis, who claimed adultery by her husband was dismissed.

Big rise in foreign car sales

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

Attempts by Austin Rover, Ford and General Motors to reduce incentive payments to reduce car sales by dealers are being thwarted by importers taking advantage of the first lull in the bitter discount war of the past three years to win sales.

New car registration figures released yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that while the "big three" British-based manufacturers sold fewer cars last month than in April 1984, there was the biggest one-month increase in imports for several years, from 33.5 per cent to almost 60 per cent.

Nissan led the field with 7.4 per cent compared with 4.9 per

TOP 10 CARS IN APRIL		
	% of sales	% of sales
Escort	12,235	7.3
Cavalier	11,222	7.2
Metro	10,592	6.3
Fiesta	8,026	5.3
Montego	7,820	5.1
Siena	5,881	3.7
Astra	5,226	3.4
Orion	4,402	2.8
Novus	4,088	2.5

cent last April. As a result, the overall Japanese market share reached 12.4 per cent, well above the agreed maximum of 11 per cent. The European companies Fiat and Renault, almost doubled their market share to 4 per cent.

Total sales in April were 155,076 cars, about 2 per cent

down on the same month last year. Ford held on to its number one position, but with a much-reduced 24 per cent share. The company's concern at its steadily-falling share, which was 30 per cent two years ago, could force it to return to bigger bonuses for dealers.

Nine thousand Fords were registered on April 29, accounting for one-quarter of the entire month's sales. So many registrations on one day suggest that Ford is still prepared to "hype" its market share by registering large numbers of demonstration and company cars.

Austin Rover had a much better month, reaching 19.3 per cent compared with 16.6 in March and winning its battle for second place with General Motors (15.7 per cent).

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PARLIAMENT MAY 7 1985

Another flotation

Thatcher on summit

Unemployment

Gas corporation joins privatization list

SALE OF SHARES

The gas industry is to be denationalized, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, announced in a statement to the Commons. Legislation is to be introduced providing for the sale of all the assets of the British Gas Corporation to workers in the industry and the public generally, he said. There will be special opportunities for gas consumers and other small investors to buy shares.

The legislation, he added, would contain necessary safety provisions and an obligation would be placed on the new company to maintain emergency services.

Mr Walker said: Major progress has been made with the Government's privatization programme. Management and enterprise have been freed from bureaucratic intervention in industries as diverse as aerospace, the ports and cross-channel services, the oil industry and British Telecom.

The Government has decided that the time has come for a further major step in the transfer of state industry to private ownership. It proposes to introduce legislation at the earliest opportunity to provide for the transfer to a new private sector company of all the assets of the British Gas Corporation, and for appropriate regulation of monopoly aspects of the gas supply business.

Following that legislation the Government intend that the shares in the new company should be sold to those employed in the industry and to the public.

The change, like the earlier ones, will remove state intervention and substitute realistic tests of performance for bureaucratic or political ones. It will create a real ownership in place of the public ownership of the nationalization statute. It will place new emphasis on efficiency for the benefit of consumers and give employees a new stake in the business.

The legislation will protect the consumer by establishing regulatory arrangements to oversee gas prices to the consumer and terms and conditions of supply. The new company will have an appropriate obligation to supply consumers as has been the case with the British Gas Corporation.

The legislation will protect consumers against discrimination and will contain necessary safety provisions, including the obligation on the new company to maintain the emergency services.

The opportunities for greater competition opened up by the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act will be maintained and kept under review. In particular it is the Government's intention that competitors should be able to supply not only large industrial consumers but also smaller domestic and commercial consumers in areas not already supplied by BGC, with suitable safeguards for safety.

Outside the area of gas supply, the new company will be able to develop other areas of its business in a competitive environment, subject like any other company to the general framework of competition legislation.

I intend to provide special opportunities to gas consumers and other small investors to purchase shares in line with our policy on wider share ownership. All gas consumers will benefit from the emphasis on efficiency which will be built into the regulatory system and from a straightforward system of gas pricing related directly to achieved commercial performance.

As with previous privatization, I propose to make generous provision to enable all who work in the industry to acquire shares and thus to take a new stake in the company's performance and future. There will be new opportunities, as well as new challenges, for management and employees in the new company.

The British gas industry is now nearly two centuries old. It has spent nearly 40 years as a

nationalized industry but was developed for a century and a half in the private sector. It has undergone a great change in the last two decades with the transition to natural gas, which has linked it to the great expansion of British industry into the North Sea.

I believe that today's announcement will mark a new and long period of successful development into which the management and all who work in the industry can bring their present talents and link them with new freedom in the interests of the nation.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said: This measure (the bill) brings new benefits to the consumer? Will it produce lower gas prices? There is not a shred of evidence to suggest that consumers will be better off.

The Secretary of State has boasted that gas consumers will be offered a special opportunity to buy shares. The majority of gas consumers have enough to do to pay their present gas bills - bills deliberately inflated by Government policy. It is the consumers, not the Government, who have financed the development of the gas industry.

Mr Walker boasted about the so-called wider share ownership. The record of privatization shows an ever-increasing concentration of shares in fewer and fewer hands. Less than 5 per cent of British Telecom shares are now in the hands of their employees. With British Aerospace and Cable and Wireless the same story could be told.

Mr Walker made a great issue of employment and the creation of jobs in his campaign speech last week. What new jobs will this measure create? What effect will it have not only on the people who work directly in the industry but on the tens of thousands who supply the industry?

There was growing public disquiet about the financial propriety of the privatization programme, rightly highlighted in the TUC report. Huge fees were made by a



Walker: New opportunities and new challenges

limited number of City and financial companies. Before any further privatization the Opposition want a full public and parliamentary inquiry into these issues.

We all know why the Government is selling off this industry. It is to pay for the Chancellor's pre-election tax handouts. We shall oppose these proposals.

Mr Walker: Since 1847 there has been a monopoly position in the supply of gas. When gas was nationalized there was a monopoly situation.

An organization that will be judged upon its commercial success and efficiency is far better than having the constant bureaucratic control that every nationalized industry suffers from.

As for this being an attempt to boost our electoral prospects, the only attempt to boost our electoral prospects from this is if the Opposition are foolish enough to promise they will nationalize gas again.

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory (Wells, C) asked if gas consumers in the South-West would continue to have access to a gas supply at the same price as other parts of the country.

Mr Walker said legislation would ensure this remained the position.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dumfriesshire, West, Lab) asked if there were any proposals to restrain incursions by the gas industry into other parts of the country.

Mr Walker said British Gas would have all the freedoms of any other corporation and company.

Later Mr Walker gave an assurance that there would be appropriate legislation to ensure that there could not be a foreign takeover.

Japanese realize strength of feeling over protectionism

ECONOMIC SUMMIT

What was impressive at the economic summit in Bonn was the conviction of all seven Governments that lasting job opportunities could only be created if sound financial policies and open markets were maintained and disincentives and unhelpful regulations removed to foster a climate of more vigorous enterprise and initiative.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons while giving a long report on the meeting.

The discussion and the communiqué reflected the similarity between the approaches and policies of all seven Governments, she added.

We recognized (she said) the further progress since our last meeting in keeping down inflation and strengthening the basis for economic growth. We also welcomed the fact that the recovery has begun to spread to the developing world.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said this had been a "do nothing" summit. He asked if Mrs Thatcher was going to give Britain another "do nothing" year when it came to unemployment policies and poverty alleviation.

He commended the pledges on a continuance of reconciliation and cooperation between countries. Whether or not they had been former allies or enemies, he welcomed international cooperation to combat drug trafficking and terrorism.

We warmly endorse the decision of Mrs Thatcher (he added) not to join President Reagan in his vindictive and dangerous policy of imposing sanctions on Nicaragua.

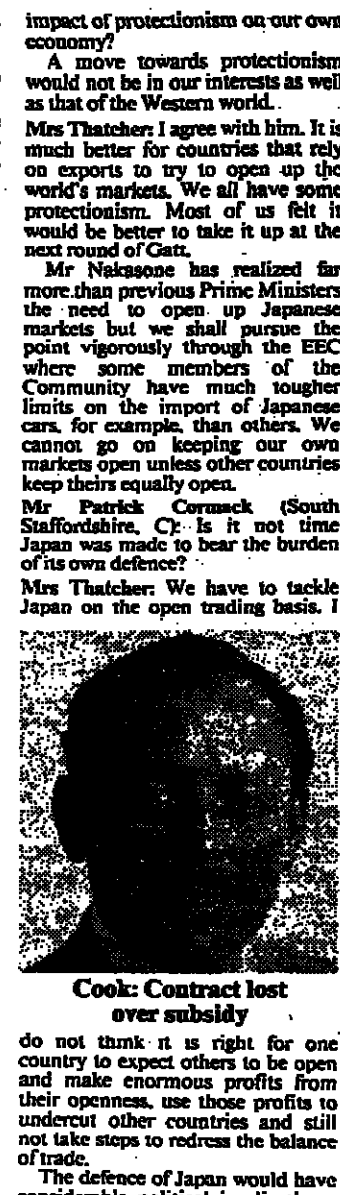
I received with deep disappointment that on economic issues, the Bonn summit turned into yet another sit tight summit.

Mrs Thatcher said Mr Kinnock was critical of other Socialist Governments which were realistic and pursued conservative policies, split with both a small and a big "C".

On Nicaragua she replied that the United States were not asked to join the United States on the question of sanctions.

She added that Britain was one of the few countries which was creating jobs.

Mr John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam, C) asked if the Japanese markets were being opened up to other countries? Will she also indicate the



Cook: Contract lost over subsidy

do not think it is right for one country to expect others to be open and make enormous profits from their openness, use those profits to undercut other countries and still not take steps to redress the balance of trade.

The defence of Japan would have considerable political implications. I would be slow to jump to the conclusion which he has reached. I think the bridge at Bosporus must take more responsibility for the defence of her maritime coast.

Mr Michael Fallon (Dartington, C) referring to "disgraceful and predatory" practices over the second Bosporus bridge, said: If we are to preserve bridge building

technology in the United Kingdom and the jobs that depend on it, everything possible should be done before the contract is signed to persuade the Japanese and Turkish governments it is in everybody's interest to ensure that at least the bridge section of this contract can be sub-contracted to Britain.

Mrs Thatcher: If there is any hope of us having sub-contractors I am sure it will be pursued very vigorously indeed.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C): Unless the Japanese come to an agreement that is copper-bottomed in the near future, we will have to protect our industry as the protect theirs.

Mrs Thatcher: We were concerned to fix a date for the next Gatt round of negotiations, which is a much more effective forum, and we will have to pursue it through the EEC. I think Mr Beaumont-Dark knows how strongly we and the US feel about it.

Mr Frank Cook (Stockton North, Lab) said Britain had failed to acquire the Bosporus bridge contract because of subsidy from the Japanese government which also have subsidies to its shipbuilding, steel making, communications and transport.

Mrs Thatcher: Our bid was the lowest and therefore I thought we should get it. We were prepared to match what anyone else gave for the bridge. But it went not only on the bridge but on the roads as well and we were not able to match that.

The British Government gave very considerable subsidies to shipbuilding, steel, railways and coal. The Japanese were not the only people at it.

Mr Derek Foster (Bishop Auckland, Lab): Why does she not fight for British industry as effectively as the Japanese fight for theirs? If she had done so that bridge contract would have been ours.

Mrs Thatcher: We matched the Japanese offer on the bridge. We could not match it on the roads. The company did the job and we did the job. We did not get the contract because of subsidies.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Forty years after the building of the bridge over the River Kwaik, the super Japanese, whose economy the Prime Minister idolizes, has pinched the bridge at Bosporus from underneath her nose by giving state aid. What an irony.

Mrs Thatcher: The Bosporus bridge had an equal amount of Government aid from this country as the Japanese give.

Alliance seeking to use veto - Thatcher

ELECTIONS

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons that the Alliance did not seek a majority, but to hold the balance so that it could use a veto. That, she declared, was hardly a democratic course of action.

Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP, later maintained that Mrs Thatcher had a hectoring style.

Mrs Thatcher: I am sure that the Alliance does not seek a veto. That, she declared, was hardly a democratic course of action. Dr David Owen, Leader of the SDP, later maintained that Mrs Thatcher had a hectoring style.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Mossley Hill, L) asked what explanation Mrs Thatcher gave for the fact that Thursday's unemployment figures, for Mr Peter Walker's speech and for the thumbs down given by Alliance voters up and down the country.

Will she be offering the excuse again (he asked) that she was once more out of the country?

Mrs Thatcher: I notice that the Alliance party does not seek a majority. It seeks to hold the balance so that it might have a veto. That is hardly a democratic course of action, if I may say so.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, on unemployment, he said that to obtain growth we must obtain the right relationship between pay, productivity and productivity. He said: "An inflationary wage round, unlinked with productivity, would do immense damage to Britain's economic prosperity."

Mr Andrew Mackay (Berkshire East, C) said that in Berkshire, where there had been a hung county, it had brought a Liberal-Labour pact and a rate increase of over 27 per cent, but in last week's county council elections there had been a major swing to the Tories who had regained control.

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Inquiry into Legionnaires disease outbreak

HEALTH

The Staffordshire District General Hospital, where there has been an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease, has now been declared safe by experts, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said in a statement to the Commons.

One probable source of the outbreak had been identified as water in the cooling towers of the hospital's air conditioning system. This and all water supplies at the hospital had been tested and heavily chlorinated. The hospital had been declared safe by the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre at

Colindale and the Health and Safety Executive.

By 10 am this morning, a total of 30 people showing signs of acute respiratory illness have died since the beginning of the outbreak. Of these, 28 are confirmed cases of Legionnaires' disease. A total of 130 people have been admitted to hospital with the symptoms. Seventy-four are still in hospital of whom two are in intensive care.

Mr Clarke said the hospital was now being used to deal with the outbreak and positively to identify the source of the infection. Once we are completely satisfied that this has been dealt with, we will be able to consider what lessons can be learnt

from it. The exact form, composition and terms of reference of the inquiry can most sensibly be settled when the immediate task is complete.

Mr Frank Dobson, an Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said he was pleased to be satisfied with local inquiry conducted by the health authority to the region. The inquiry would have to consider when the health authority first suspected that the outbreak was not legionnaires disease, when it was first contacted by the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre, why was there a delay in this contact?

Mr Clarke said the inquiry must be independent and that almost certainly meant it would not be

drawn from the regional or district health authority.

The cause of the outbreak and the steps taken to identify the disease were matters for the inquiry.

Further, as a precaution he intended over the next day or two to write to managers of every district health authority drawing attention again to the DHSS guidelines and to make sure that the necessary precautions, tests and disinfectants were being carried out on cooling towers of the kind in question.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C) It should be a thoroughly independent inquiry and somebody such as a High Court judge should be asked to preside.

Mr Clarke said he agreed.

Demand for independent supervision

UNION BALLOTS

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) said during Commons questions that he had seen Transport and General Workers' Union membership cards stamped to indicate that holders had voted in the ballot for a general secretary when, in fact, they had not even seen a ballot paper.

It was because of such queries that the union had decided to re-run the ballot, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Employment, replied when advising Mr Greenway to take the matter up with the union because the present ballot was flawed.

Mr Bottomley said Mr Greenway wanted to investigate complaints of that kind.

Opening the exchanges, Mr Patrick Nicholls (Teignbridge, C) asked if, as with the TGWU affair, it became clear that the trade union movement cannot be trusted to conduct fair and independent elections, will he not consider that the legislation might have to go further so that those elections take place under independent supervision?

Mr Bottomley: To have independent supervision would virtually rule out workplace ballots which have a higher participation record than postal ballots.

Everyone in the House ought to agree that it is up to trade unions themselves to make sure their election procedures develop the trust and the confidence which their members expect and which leaders need if they are to carry any credibility.

Mr Edward Leigh (Gainsborough and Horncastle, C) is he not concerned that people voting in workplace ballots are being handed so-called branch recommendations telling them to vote for a certain candidate without mentioning they were members of the Communist Party, as has happened in the Civil and Public Services Association election?

Mr Bottomley: It demonstrates the need for moderates to put up for election and get themselves organized.

Wigley apologizes

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl C) apologized to the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) and the House of Commons for accidentally damaging the Speaker's chair during a debate on the Unborn Children (Protection) Bill last Friday.

In a personal statement, Mr Wigley said, following some heated exchanges he was in the process of making representations to the

Pledge on environment

The Government was concerned that research work on the environment should continue unaffected by the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan county councils and, in addition to making provision in the Local Government Bill, it had tabled an amendment to strengthen these proposals, Lord Skelmersdale, the Government spokesman, said during the fourth day of the committee stage of the Bill in the House of Lords.

The proposed amendment, he said, would give the successor bodies virtually the same powers as the GLC now had to collect research and information but if, after examining points made in the debate it was possible to improve the Bill further, the Government would come forward at a report stage with additional amendments.

Lord Chelwood (C), who had proposed a new clause to establish

Little hope for Powell Bill

When Mr Don Dover (Chorley, C) asked an assurance from the Prime Minister that the Government would allow enough time for Mr Enoch Powell's Unborn Children (Protection) Bill to get through the Commons, Mrs Thatcher replied that she could not offer him any great comfort.

She said that Mr Dover would doubtless consent Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the Commons, to give the Bill a reading in the Commons on Friday when the report stage was adjourned without a new date being set for resumption. But she would not give Mr Dover any hope that he would get a different answer.

The Bill aroused strong feelings in the House, and she also felt strongly about it, but the practice was that the percentage of support for the Bill was stopped in the Commons on Friday when the report stage was adjourned without a new date being set for resumption. But she would not give Mr Dover any hope that he would get a different answer.

Thatcher on Walker to Kinnock

UNEMPLOYMENT

In response to references by Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to last week's speech by Mr Peter Walker, on unemployment, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, quoted at length from the speech and thanked Mr Kinnock for enabling her to do so.

Mr Kinnock pointed out the numbers of unemployed and recipients of supplementary benefit and asked what independence they enjoyed while Mrs Thatcher dreamed idle dreams of a classless society - a reference to her comments in a broadcast on Sunday.

Mr Kinnock declared: As someone who told us on Sunday that she wants to get rid of class division totally, is she aware that 2,054,000 more are unemployed; there are 2,100,000 more on supplementary benefit and 140,000 more are having to claim family income supplement than on the day she became Prime Minister six years ago.

In view of that, what independence does she think those millions enjoy while she dreams her idle dreams of a classless society?

Mrs Thatcher: I point out also that there are 1,800,000 more owner occupiers since 1979 - a policy fought tooth and nail by the Labour Party that there has been a dramatic extension of share owner-

ship, as with British Telecom and an increase in the number of employee share option schemes.

There has also been an increase in the number of children in assisted places in schools and we have extended the right to trade union members to seek a ballot, a policy which he not only did not insist on, but did everything to fight.

Mr Kinnock: I hear what she says and I agree with her. But she says last Friday that people are more than consumers. Even on that basis, will she reverse her policies of change in the welfare state which so many people disadvantage so many people?

Why is she not actively working to stop the unemployment policy which has brought more people to state dependence in the past six years than ever before?

Mrs Thatcher: I am glad Mr Kinnock referred to Mr Walker's speech. I noticed that he said that the Labour Party was frequently interested in economic disincentives, appearing to be totally unwilling to give the worker the higher status and high privilege he seeks. They are against workers in council houses becoming owner-occupiers. They are against workers having freedom of choice for their children in education.

To them it appears that workers are but first prize in a bloody vote at a Labour Party Conference and not people whose responsibility and freedoms need to be in their own hands rather than in the hands of the socialist politician or the bureaucrat.

I thank Mr Kinnock for allowing me the opportunity to read that part of Mr Walker's speech.

During the questions, Mrs Thatcher said unit labour costs in Britain were rising and that had affected unemployment.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Barnes, Lab)

said ex-Cabinet ministers, Cabinet ministers, backbenchers and the electorate were saying "NO" to Mrs Thatcher's economic policies because they are certain that working class people are being disadvantaged by the population of working age and in work was 66 per cent in Britain, higher than the figure in West Germany, France and Italy, and could be that of the United States.

She also said that unemployment had been affected by the miners' strike, not only in the mining industry but among all the industry's suppliers. Many people have lost their jobs because of that strike, who would otherwise have a job. Strikes destroy jobs.

Mr Marilyn Rees (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab): Would there be any place for Tory wets in Mrs Thatcher's economic policies?

Mrs Thatcher: To make up a good climate you need dries and wets.

at the earliest possible moment a significant improvement in the unemployment problem. We are doing better in that respect than the socialist governments of France or Italy.

In answer to later questions, Mr King said there were considerable variations in the employment situation in different parts of the country.

The greatest single number of the long-term unemployed (he said) are actually in London and the South East. It raises the problem of the number of vacancies and whether there are real disincentives to work in the "Why Work?" syndrome.

In the past year alone there had been an increase in the labour force of 480,000. Some 340,000 more jobs had been created but because the increase in the labour force was greater than there was still a rise in unemployment.

The latest academic study he had seen demonstrated that one could, with a perfectly sound basis, argue that the present level of unemployment was anywhere between 1.7 million and 4.1 million, depending on the assumptions used.

The Secretary of State for Employment will Mr King now give consideration to the mass unemployment his six years' policy has created and consider joining Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy in asking for a change in the Government's policies?

Mr King accepted that unemployment was too high.

Government has to do better

The Government accepted it had to do better in the fight against unemployment, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, told the Commons today.

All its efforts, and some of the changes in the Budget, were directed precisely to that end, he added.

The Secretary of State was responding to Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee East, SNP) who said that 40 years after the end of the Second World War, for most people it would be fair to say that the VE stood for victory in employment rather than victory in Europe.

Mr King: I do not think there is a single MP who does not wish to see

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Finance Bill, committee, second day. Lords (2.30): Debates on compensation for personal injury, on Industry Year 2 and on law centres.

Pupils do better with marked homework

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Children who are set homework, do it and have it marked perform better at school than pupils who do no homework, a select committee of MPs was told yesterday.

But there is a wide variation in the amount of homework set in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, according to the National Foundation for Educational Research.

In English primary schools as many as 70 per cent of pupils aged 11 are said by teachers to do no mathematics homework. That compares with just under 50 per cent of Welsh 11-year-olds and only 3 per cent of fourth-year juniors in Northern Ireland.

The research, carried out by the foundation for the Government's Assessment of Performance Unit, shows that only 4 per cent of English 11-year-olds do two hours or more mathematics homework a week.

In Wales 20 per cent of fourth-year juniors are given two hours or more mathematics homework a week and in Northern Ireland 50 per cent get that amount.

Presenting those statistics to the Commons select committee

on education and science, investigating primary schooling, Mr Derek Foxman, of the foundation, said that few local education authorities had policies on homework. The disparity was explained by the preference of some teachers not to "worry" children with homework.

Dr Clare Burstall, director of the foundation, told the committee, chaired by Sir William van Straubenzee, Conservative MP for Wokingham, that primary education was vital. "There is plenty of evidence to show that children who under-achieve in primary school never catch up", she said. "The gap between them and others goes on widening."

The foundation presented the MPs with new information on the performance of boys and girls in mathematics. It has found that the difference in performance between boys and girls aged 15 are also clearly visible when they are aged 11.

Boys are better at measurement whereas girls excel in computation. Most of the differences are in the top attainment band.

Collapsed fair ride examined

By Robin Young

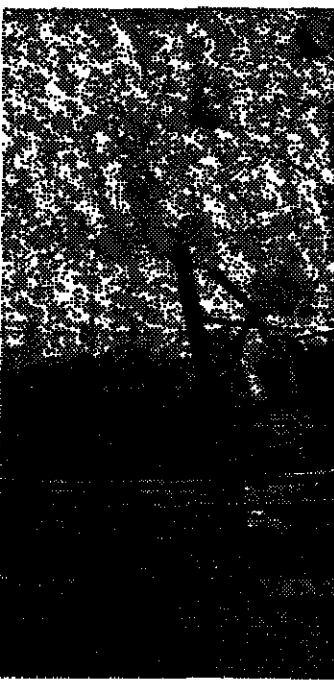
Safety experts were yesterday examining a shattered timber support at the base of a chair-o-plane ride which collapsed on Monday evening in an amusement park at Felixstowe, Suffolk, injuring 16 children and seven adults.

It is suspected that rotten wood may have caused the crash, which happened as the machine was slowing down and only half full of riders.

The Conservative Party Chairman, John Gummer, MP for Suffolk Coastal, said: "I know this fair very well. My own children have been on the rides, and the Maffing family who run them are very concerned about safety."

The fairground owner, Mr Charles Manning, said that all his rides had been officially checked before Easter when the fair opened for the season. Mr Manning's family amusements in Felixstowe for 40 years was the first accident. The fairground remained closed yesterday.

The accident has revived concern about safety at fairgrounds. The Health and

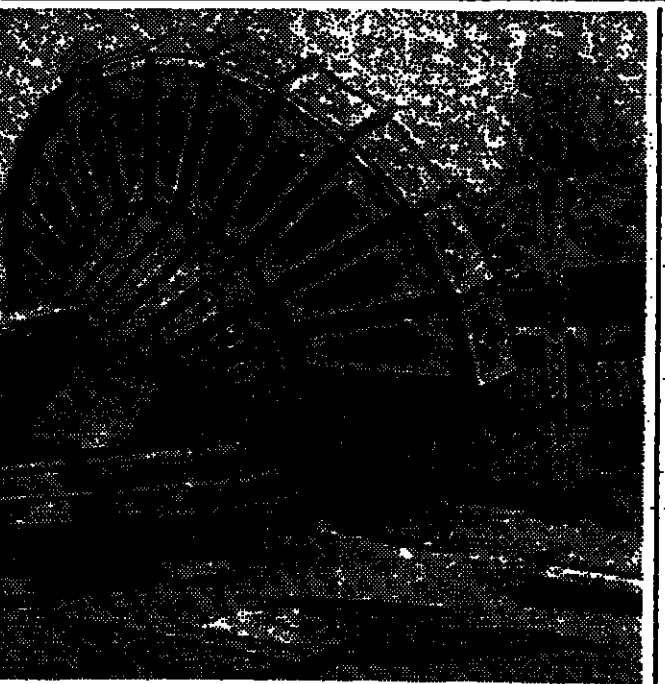


The wrecked chair-o-plane ride in Felixstowe yesterday.

Safety Executive launched a safety code for funfairs in April last year, requiring that machines should be examined at least once a year by a competent engineer.

The executive said yesterday that the code was being well complied with and the rides at Felixstowe had been inspected.

The code is a voluntary one negotiated with three organiza-



The wrecked chair-o-plane ride in Felixstowe yesterday.

tions, including the Association of Amusement Parks and Piers, the trade body for static fairground operators. Although the code is not backed by separate legislation, its safety requirements are enforceable under the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Since a ride collapsed at Battersea funfair in 1974, killing seven people, 16 more

University court action on 'racism'

York University has launched a High Court action in an attempt to defeat its student union policy of "no platform for racists".

The union failed to meet a two-week deadline imposed by the university calling for it to lift the ban on speakers it considers racist.

Mr Peter Smith, assistant registrar, said yesterday that High Court proceedings had begun to have the ban declared illegal and force the union to guarantee freedom of speech.

In spite of frequent clashes over similar "no platform" policies, the move is believed to be the first in which a university authority has taken students to court over the issue.

Mr John Carlisle, MP, a leading member of the Conservative Monday Club, was prevented from speaking to Tory students on the campus last year by a picket organized by the union.

Mr Jonathan Slater, the union's president, accused the authorities of "financial blackmail" by trying to force a defeat on the issue with the threat of heavy legal costs against the union.

Sister died after boy started fire

An inquest at Leigh, Greater Manchester, was told yesterday that a five-year-old boy, "fascinated with fires", showed police how he started one at his home and which killed his sister, aged three.

A policeman told Mr David Blakey, the coroner, that the boy, Leon Lindup, told him after demonstrating how he had started the fire "It lit. It went up dead quick." The coroner was told that the fire was started by paraffin poured over rubbish.

Woman Detective Constable Rita Kraft said that the boy set light to paper with matches in a police interview room, smiled as he watched it burning, became annoyed when it began to die and demanded more paper.

"He became over-excited about the flames and I had to take the matches from him and extinguish the fire," she said.

The boy's mother had earlier told the inquest of five other fires he had started in his home.

The coroner recorded a verdict of misadventure on the sister, Kelly, who died in the blaze on New Year's Day at their home in Lynton Road, Tyldesley, near Leigh.

Catholic bishops give boost to prospects of church unity

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A boost to the prospects of church unity between the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church has been given by the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales in a document published today.

It is their official response to the progress made in resolving doctrinal differences, announced by the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission in 1982.

The commission's general conclusions are endorsed by the English bishops, who have therefore distanced themselves from the more negative view taken by the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The bishops suggest some details needed further explanation, however.

The former chairman of the commission, the Right Rev Alan Clark, Roman Catholic Bishop of East Anglia, said he was overwhelmed by the response of his fellow bishops. "Years back one would never have dreamt it would have been like that," he said.

The English response would be a great help in ensuring a welcome for the commission's work throughout the world, he said.

The final report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission has been referred by the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury to the bishops' conferences of the Roman Catholic Church and the provinces of the Anglican communion throughout the world, for a judgement on whether it truly represents both Catholic and Anglican faith.

A new commission has been set up to continue the work, but acceptance of the 1982 report, it is generally agreed, would itself make possible eventual Catholic recognition of Anglican Holy Orders.

Disagreement about the doctrine concerned was previously unbridgeable to that, but the report before the churches speaks of "substantial agreement" both of the Eucharist and the priesthood.

The initial Vatican response raised doubts whether the Catholic Church could accept the two agreements. But the English bishops' favourable judgement is likely to carry weight, as England is seen as the

crucial locus of the relationship between the two churches. Historically, English Catholics have generally been obstructive and English pressure has been behind several anti-Anglican moves by the Vatican in the past 100 years.

The new English bishops' document is likely to be circulated throughout the world inside both communions. As the Vatican has invited such comments, it is in no position to reject them: a comprehensive decision will not be made until comments have been received, some time after 1988.

The 1982 report said some progress had been made on the key issue of papal authority, without resolving it. The English bishops' response suggests they were closer than they thought, and their comments on papal infallibility will be studied closely by Anglican experts.

As advance copies were circulated last week there was some surprise at how the bishops had treated it, and how close they had come to meeting Anglican objections.

They stated the "only grounds for complete assurance" that an infallible definition had been made was the way it was received in the church - the theological concept of "reception" - which corresponds to the Anglican position, stated in the 1982 report, that such definitions might need to be "received" for study and discussion.

That was contrasted to what had hitherto been thought to be the Catholic position, that infallible definitions had to be obeyed.

The Right Rev Frank Thomas, chairman of the bishops' theological committee which drafted the document, said the Anglican position and the Catholic one were separate by little distance. "It seems to me that the two positions are acceptable. In the end I did not see that as a negative position."

The co-chairman of the new Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, the Right Rev Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, said he was "very happy indeed" with the English bishops' response.

Response to the Final Report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, 1982 (Catholic Media Office, 23 Kensington Square, London W8 4QP).

Border truce exposes UN-militia tension as guerrillas await chance

Israel's proxy army keeps up pressure

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, Lebanon

The guerrilla leader was quite explicit. His followers set on low stools around him as he spoke. "We are human beings," he said. "We don't care if a man is a Jew, a Muslim or a Christian. God treats all humans equally."

"The most important thing for us is that a man should not be an enemy. If Israel leaves Lebanon, then our struggle will end. We are not going to attack Palestine without the help of other Arabs. Our home is Lebanon."

The message is always the same, now from the Lebanese guerrilla movement. If the Israelis leave Lebanon and disband their "South Lebanon Army" militia, then the war will end. The guerrillas will not let the Palestinians return - some of them even curse Yasser Arafat's name - nor will they let the UN see us. But if the Israelis go, and their allies go, then our struggle will not need to go on.

As the resistance leader put it, leaning against the grimy wall of his darkened home. "If we go on secret operations, we shall not let the UN see us. But if the Israelis go, and their allies go, then our struggle will not need to go on."

If these sentiments account for the "de facto" truce now in force in southern Lebanon, however, it guarantees no peace for the future.

For its part, however, the UN has not yet seen fit to cancel the order allowing Israeli Shin Bet Intelligence agents to travel through UN roadblocks. General William Callaghan, the UN force commander in Nagoura, apparently still regards Israel's retreating troops as an army of occupation in the whole of southern Lebanon, even though the Israelis now control less than half the UN zone.

"SLA" men, on the other hand, are not allowed through UN checkpoints, and each UN battalion intelligence officer has a photograph of an "SLA" officer called Nabih who lives in Bradchit and has been working for Shin Bet. Mr Nabih is not welcome in UN territory.

The Finnish battalion prides itself - unlike the Filipinos in the UN zone - on having no armed guerrillas in their streets. Nevertheless, groups of young men several times stopped my car to search it in the hills south of the Litani river. They were courteous and firm, but evidently intent on ensuring that neither Palestinian nor "SLA" gunmen should enter their area.



Shade of peace: Helmets for French troops joining the Unifil peace force in Lebanon get a pre-departure sky-blue repaint.

They plan to keep out the PLO; and when the Israelis leave their buffer zone, they plan to get the "SLA" out of there too. Curiously, they seem to believe that Israel is going to let them.

ROME: The Pope discussed Lebanon with the Maronite Patriarch, Cardinal Antonios Buitros Khreish, on Monday but the Vatican has no political initiative ready to achieve peace, a Vatican spokesman said yesterday (Reuters reports).

Arabs chafe at buffer zone curbs

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli Army has imposed strict new security regulations on 100,000 Lebanese living inside the buffer zone over which Israeli plans to retain indirect control after the bulk of its uniformed soldiers pull back to the international border in the next few weeks.

The regulations have increased tension inside the predominantly Shia Muslim zone which stretches from the Mediterranean to the foothills of Mount Hermon. Israel plans to retain control, via mainly Christian militias financed, armed and uniformed by the Tel Aviv defence ministry.

The military regulations include a complete ban on Lebanese walking outside home villages after dusk. They have been distributed in leaflets throughout the zone, which varies from five to ten miles wide and includes areas under UN supervision.

According to the Israeli rules, no Lebanese in the zone will be allowed to carry arms without a permit, and hunting, a favourite pastime for south Lebanese of all religions, is banned. Vehicles in the zone must carry at least two passengers and at night only in a convoy of at least two cars.

The main purpose appears to be to try to minimize the possibility of suicide attacks against the remaining Israeli troops and militia allies.

The leaflets say that residents of the security zone are responsible for the behaviour of their own family and of visitors from the north, where most anti-Israeli guerrillas are based waiting to attack the border.

Israeli ministers have threatened already to impose a "scorched earth" policy if there are new attacks against northern Israel from the zone, which covers roughly 330 square miles, or 8 per cent of Lebanon.

US warms up Nato's hot-line proposal

Brussels (Reuters) - When President Reagan calls for a hot-line between US and Soviet military headquarters during a speech to the European Parliament today he will be "warming up" an existing Nato proposal, allied diplomats said yesterday.

The creation of special communications links to reduce the risk of misunderstanding of military activities is one of six confidence-building measures tabled by Nato at the Stockholm Conference on Disarmament in Europe.

A US Nato official acknowledged that the President's idea was "the same sort of thing already on the table in Stockholm."

WASHINGTON: The United States and the Soviet Union only last July initiated an agreement to expand and improve the so-called crisis hot-line communications link between Washington and Moscow (Moshin Ali writes).

The hot-line, installed soon after the Cuban missile crisis 23 years ago, has been used sparingly for urgent crisis messages between the US President and the Soviet leaders. American officials decline to give details of these.

It is reported to have been used at least five times, including during the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars. According to unofficial reports it was also used during the 1971 India-Pakistan war, the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus and the 1979 Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The Reagan Administration has refused to say whether it has been used under its authority except for tests, but President Reagan has said that the hot-line had "served both our governments well."

The President proposed the modernization of the hot-line in May 1983 as one of number of confidence-building measures to reduce the risk of accidental war.

The Washington terminal for the hot-line is in the National Military Communications Centre at the Pentagon, with a link to the White House, an Administration official said. He could not say where the Moscow terminal actually was.

The present hot-line uses a slow, 66-word per minute teleprinter. Under the July 1984 agreement the upgraded hot-line will have additional "facsimile capability." Officials in July said it would take about 18 to 24 months to complete the installation of the facsimile improvements.

Nato's northern flank: 1

Norway treads warily after Soviet build-up

The Soviet Union deploys much of its naval and air power in Arctic waters. In the first of two articles, Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent, reports from Norway on Nato's response to the threat on its northern flank.

The Arctic is emerging as the latest strategically important area in the world-wide struggle between communism and the Western democracies.

A massive build-up over the last 20 years of Soviet naval and air power on the Kola Peninsula, inside the Arctic Circle and barely 60 miles from the frontier with Norway, has focused increasing attention on that part of the world.

With more than 200 surface warships, 180 submarines (including more than half of Russia's strategic missile submarines) and some 440 naval aircraft based there, the Kola Peninsula has come to constitute the world's largest concentration of sea-power.

The presence of this powerful Soviet Northern Fleet, as well as important air bases just round the corner from Norway, has opened the prospect of heavy naval and air attacks from the north on the Atlantic sea lanes, as well as against Western Europe. This growing threat has been highlighted in recent strategic analyses for the British chiefs of staff.

It is also reflected in US pressures to begin regular patrols with its carrier battle groups in the Norwegian Sea. The argument is that their absence allows the Russians too much latitude; the northern waters are being used increasingly by the Soviet Union as deployment areas for submarines carrying long-range strategic missiles.

In Nato's view, the linchpin of this area is Norway, the long westerly coast-line of which flanks the sea routes and many

of the operational air routes from the Kola area. Norway's position is complicated by the fact that it shares with Turkey the dubious distinction of being a Nato member with a border with the Soviet Union.

This has led Norway to lay great emphasis on causing Russia as little aggravation as possible, reflected in its refusal to allow allied forces permanent bases or the storage of nuclear weapons. For the same reason it will not allow Nato exercises in the county of Finnmark, which adjoins Russia.

Given these policy limitations, Norway has sought to persuade its allies to commit themselves to deploy forces to defend Norway without actually basing them there in peacetime.

Only one Canadian brigade is committed absolutely to that role. It is assumed, however, that a US Marine amphibious brigade and the British-Netherlands Amphibious Force would also be deployed there in time of crisis.

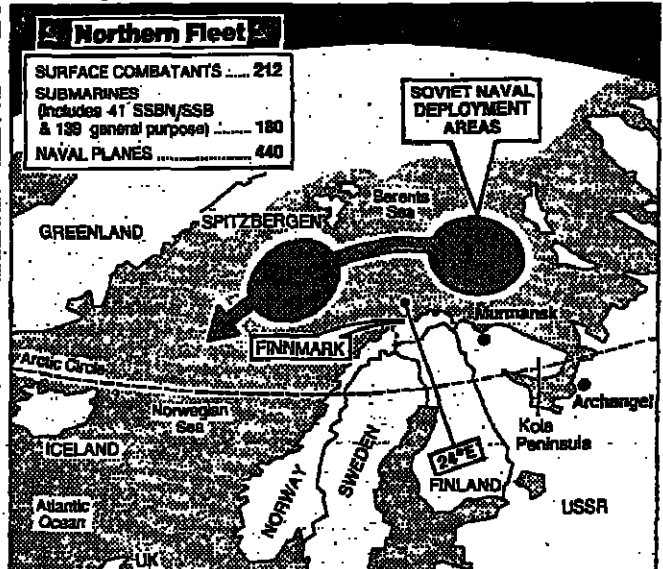
Of these forces, the US Marine brigade is politically the most important.

The commandos of the British Royal Marines, who constitute the bulk of the British - Netherlands Amphibious Force, train in Norway for three months every winter.

At Governmental level, the only substantial difficulties have been over Britain's refusal to dedicate these men absolutely to Norway's defence: other options still open include their use in the Azores and other Atlantic Islands. Britain has also refused to stockpile commandos' equipment there, apart from tracked snow vehicles.

This contrasts with the Canadians and the Americans, who have plans to build substantial stocks of equipment

Tomorrow: Norway's defences.



Harare keeps emergency

Harare - Zimbabwe's House of Assembly sat for a surprisingly low-key debate to renew the state of emergency, which will extend it into the general elections scheduled for next month (Jan Raath writes).

Mr Simbi Mubako, Minister of Home Affairs, said the security forces needed the extra

Lagos plea to free Britons rejected

Lagos (Reuters) - A Lagos High Court judge yesterday rejected a defence request for the release of two detained British engineers accused of stealing an executive jet.

Mr Kenneth Clark and Mr Angus Patterson, employed by the British firm Bristow Helicopters in Nigeria, have been held for nearly a year. They are accused of helping a British pilot fly the plane from Lagos airport in May last year while private flights were banned.

Mr Clark and Mr Patterson, who were not in court yesterday, were discharged in March when the Federal Attorney-General dropped the case. They were rearrested as they left the court and charged again with the same offence.

Justice Candido Johnson said yesterday that the Federal Attorney-General did not object to the Lagos state Attorney-General bringing new charges and the second trial in another court could go ahead.

The defence argued that it was unconstitutional to try the two men again on a similar charge. Mr Clark and Mr Patterson are next due in court on Monday.

A British diplomatic official, Mr Ian Kydd, who was in court yesterday told Reuters he saw the two men last week.

Britain has expressed concern at their detention but Nigeria has denied they are being ill-treated.

Student's body found in gully after two years

The body of Miss Veronique Marre, aged 22, the missing French student, has been found near Wastdale youth hostel, which she was last seen leaving on July 31, 1983.

In spite of a police investigation and underwater search no clue to her whereabouts emerged. Even a recent BBC *Crime Watch* programme produced no results.

It was while searching Wastdale for Miss Marre last year that a police underwater team found the body of Mrs Margaret Hogg, which had been dumped 10 years earlier. Her husband, Peter, an airline pilot, is serving a prison term for her manslaughter.

On Monday a member of Wastdale mountain rescue team found some papers and other items at the foot of a 300ft scree running into Wastdale, England's deepest lake, opposite the youth hostel.

He climbed higher and found the remains of a body believed to be that of Miss Marre below a footpath from which she is thought to have fallen.

Det Chief Inspector Steve Reid, who was in charge of the investigations, said that her body was in a gully that was not normally accessible from routes used by the rescue teams.

"But her rucksack had since burst open and papers from it had worked their way down the scree until they became visible", he said.

Papers censured for reporting colour of rapist

Three national daily papers and a London evening paper are criticized today by the Press Council for mentioning the colour of a black youth, aged 17, who was convicted of murdering one girl and admitted raping five others.

Complaints by Mr R. Borzello, of 43 Camden Passage, London, N1, against *The Sun*, the *Daily Mail*, *The Standard* and the *Daily Express* were upheld.

He had complained that it was improper to report the colour of Michael Taylor, of Fanshawe Street, Hoxton, North-east London, who was ordered by a judge at the Central Criminal Court to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure for murder, as this had no relevance to the story and exacerbated racist feelings.

All the reports, which said that the black, slightly-built youth showed no emotion as the judge ordered him to be held indefinitely, were in clear breach of a previous ruling by the Press Council, he said.

The Press Council, in its adjudication, said it had consistently held that race or colour should be introduced only where, for example, it had a direct bearing on the crime alleged.

The fact that a crime was serious or abhorrent did not of itself create such relevance. In this case the crimes were appalling, but the fact that the youth was black was irrelevant.

Bank information passed to immigration officer

Immigration officers used contacts in banks to trace illegal immigrants, it was disclosed at a Hornsey inquest in London yesterday on Miss Jeanette Ryan, aged 20, a clerk with Barclays Bank branch at Swiss Cottage.

"Dr David Paul, the Coroner, said she passed information to her stepbrother, Mr Barry Woodward, of Rushmore Close, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, an immigration officer at Gatwick airport."

"He said that while he worked for six weeks in the department for tracing illegal immigrants Miss Ryan used the bank's computer to obtain information for him."

"After he left the department he continued to keep in touch with Miss Ryan on behalf of a colleague, but just after Christmas Miss Ryan refused to help him."

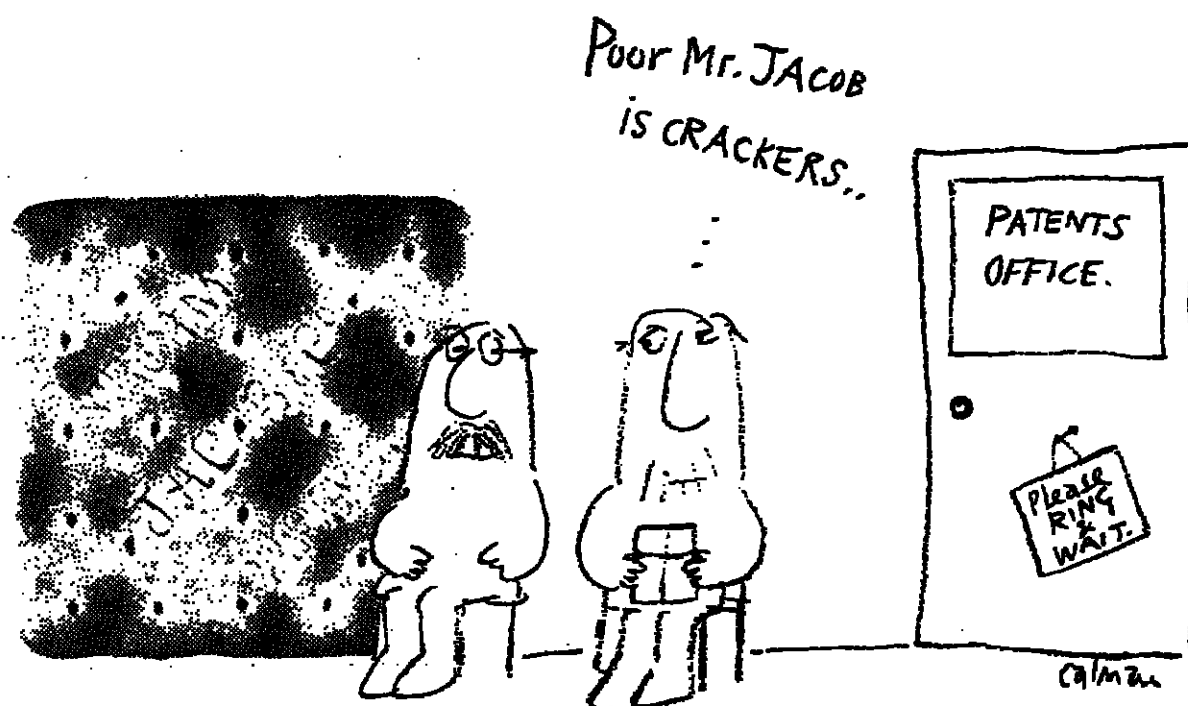
"Miss Ryan's body was found in her car in the garage of her home at Sherrick Green Road, Willesden Green, on January

26. She died from carbon monoxide poisoning and her sister, Maureen, of Mitchell Close, Willesden, Dartford, told of a note in the style of a will which she found at the house."

Mr Colin Manchip, deputy chief inspector of immigration at Croydon, said the case had focused on a need for instructions to staff. Other instances of bank staff being used to obtain information had come to light but he was preparing a draft proposal that any future request for information should be "through official channels."

Mr Paul Meyer, deputy head of the law section of Barclays, said: "The bank's position is that it will not provide information unless we are forced to do so legally."

A verdict that Miss Ryan killed herself was recorded. Dr Paul said: "It is possible she began to co-operate out of a sense of public duty. Whether it was a factor that caused her to take this step, I know not."



We finally cracked it. It took us a bit of time though, and in one way William Jacob beat us to it. His introduction of cream crackers in 1885 scooped the market and made a lasting impression on the British palate.

Although our founder was a contemporary of Mr. Jacob, it was the best part of a century before we could proudly unveil our new cracker (a device for turning low value fuel oil into high value petrol).

It's currently earning millions every year for Britain's balance of payments. But we can't claim our cracker will still be around in another century.

Energy technology moves a little faster - and being in front when it comes to innovation keeps us in business.

But as the oldest international oil company in Britain, we're not at all cheesed off about sharing our 100th birthday with Mr. Jacob.

Mobil

VE-Day in Europe

Britain breaks ranks with US and will attend Moscow parade

From Richard Owen, Moscow

As Moscow geared up yesterday for tomorrow's massive military parade on Red Square to mark VE Day, diplomats acknowledged that there has been confusion among the Nato allies over whether or not to attend, despite months of consultation.

Sir Iain Sutherland, the British Ambassador, will attend the parade, together with the French and Italian ambassadors, thus breaking with the Nato practice of boycotting all Soviet military parades since the invasion of Afghanistan.

But Mr Arthur Hartman, the American Ambassador, has decided to stay away, partly because of the shooting of Major Nicholson in East Germany and partly because of the anti-Western tone of the Soviet celebrations, which, American diplomats said, emphasized former hostilities rather than future reconciliation.

The Dutch and West German ambassadors share this view, diplomats said, and will also boycott tomorrow's parade. The American Embassy was reported to have been taken aback by the British decision to attend.

Red Star, the Soviet armed forces newspaper, said the parade would include one Soviet officer honoured for his courage and heroism in performing his international duty, a reference to Afghanistan. Others in the march are also likely to have served there.

The West German Embassy said that contrary to earlier reports Bonn's Ambassador in Moscow, Herr Jörg Dastl, had been invited by the Russians. He refused on the grounds that for Germans VE Day is a commemoration of the war dead "on all sides" - and of the liberation of Europe from Nazism, rather than a celebration of a Soviet victory, which is the theme of Moscow's festivities.

All Nato envoys, however, will attend a wreath-laying ceremony near Red Square today, to be followed by Kremlin speeches. Yesterday, Mr Hartman went to Murmansk, in northern Russia, to lay wreaths on graves honouring both Soviet and Western sailors.

In a symbolic act he cast

another wreath on to the cold grey sea in memory of the British and American seamen who died in convoys bringing supplies to Murmansk, an episode played down by Soviet historians.

A British delegation led by Viscount Asquith, First Secretary at the British Embassy in Moscow, and Lieutenant-Commander John Hardie, Assistant Naval Attaché, will perform the same ceremonies today.

Murmansk and Smolensk have been named "hero cities" for their role in Russia's victory, joining cities such as Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad) and Leningrad.

Moscow is dominated by Red Flags, giant patriotic posters bearing the figure 40, military music and veterans' reminiscences on television. War films and documentaries show the rarely-seen figure of Stalin, although the Soviet press has tended to emphasize that the victory was won by the people and the military rather than by the dictator.

Leading article, page 13

Civic heads united by suffering

West Germany's main opposition party, the Social Democrats, yesterday held as its main contribution to the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War a meeting in Nuremberg attended by representatives of cities and towns which suffered especially terribly in the war.

Mr William McKernan, deputy Lord Mayor of Coventry, was among nine civic leaders who spoke at the meeting in the Mastersingers' Hall. Others were from Leningrad, Minsk, Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad), Dresden, Warsaw, Oradour-sur-Glane, Lidice, and Rotterdam.

From Frank Johnson, Bonn
Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democrats, told the gathering: "The power of the Soviet Union and the United States and their relationship with one another has become objectively a threat to life. If Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachev are to meet, they must do so in a spirit of world conflict that could destroy everything."

Herr Johannes Rau, the party's deputy chairman, was given prominence at the meeting, partly because of the election on Sunday in North Rhine Westphalia, of which he is prime minister.

He said that today's inter-

national risks were "hardly less dangerous for world peace than the great madness of Adolf Hitler", and called for intensive efforts by West Germany to revive the "once-hopeful Ostpolitik".

The main events by which West Germany will mark the anniversary take place today. There will be what is officially described as a "solemn" sitting of the Bundestag, at which president Richard von Weizsäcker will deliver the Federal Republic's definitive pronouncement on the anniversary and its meaning. In the evening all political leaders will attend an ecumenical service.

Unease in Belgrade over arms pageant

Belgrade (Reuters) - Yugoslavia's armed forces are rehearsing a Soviet-style military spectacular to mark VE Day, amid signs of unease over the message it might carry or grumbles over its cost.

The Communist authorities have mobilized 6,700 troops and civilians and will field 50 types of weapons, many of Soviet design, in a five-mile procession in Belgrade tomorrow. It will be non-aligned Yugoslavia's first military parade in 10 years.

But with the country in economic crisis and warnings by officials that conditions are ripe for the growth of a political opposition, its staging has stirred suspicions over exactly

what message it is intended to convey.

Madina, an official youth newspaper in the republic of Slovenia, voiced the suspicions of some Yugoslav intellectuals when it said the parade aimed to warn potential opponents to think twice about getting organized.

Slovenian officials of the communist-led Socialist Alliance have said a peace rally would have been more appropriate to commemorate Yugoslavia's 1.7 million war dead.

● PARIS: President Mitterrand in a VE Day message to the Soviet Union hailed "the brotherhood of arms" which united the two nations in the Second World War (AP reports).

In the message to the Supreme Soviet M Mitterrand pointed out that "Europe, despite many moments of tension and many patches of shadow, has known 40 years of peace. The French people will never forget the sacrifices of the Soviet people" which had helped bring that era of peace.

● HELSINKI: Finland appeared deeply embarrassed by a Soviet proposal to build a memorial there honouring Soviet soldiers who died during the Second World War (Reuters reports). The two countries are now linked by a friendship treaty, but in 1941 Finland attacked the Soviet Union alongside the Nazi forces.

Warning on Murdoch TV interests

Sydney (Reuters) - Mr Rupert Murdoch's control of two Australian television stations will be reviewed if he relinquishes his Australian citizenship, broadcasting authorities said yesterday.

The Australian Broadcasting Tribunal, which regulates broadcasting in Australia, said in a press statement that no action would be taken against Mr Murdoch until he changed his citizenship.

Mr Murdoch has said he intends to seek American citizenship in order to clear the way for a \$2 billion (£1.7 billion) deal to buy seven US television stations from Metro-media Inc.

The tribunal said representatives of Mr Murdoch's News group told it that in the normal course of events there would be a period of four to six months between the date of application for US citizenship and the date when it became effective.

"They stated that if Mr Murdoch decided to proceed to become a US citizen consideration will be given to the steps necessary to ensure that the licensees of the two television stations continue to comply with the requirements of the Broadcasting and Television Act."

The tribunal concluded: "As no change has taken place to date in the citizenship of Mr Murdoch no action is warranted at this stage by the tribunal."

The deals must receive the approval of the US Federal Communications Commission, whose rules prohibit television stations being owned by non-US citizens.

NORTH AIR

Air conditioner manufacturer, wants to establish a collaboration - relationship, for commercialization of his products.

CIC, S.A. - Serrano, 114 Madrid 28006, Spain.

Egypt opts for slow move to Sharia law

From Alice Brinton, Cairo

After lengthy debate, Egypt's 459-member People's Assembly has decided against Islamic (Sharia) law. This is a defeat for Islamic groups claiming it as a growing demand among Egypt's 42 million Muslims.

The champion of Islamic Law in Egypt is Shaikh Salah Abu Ismail, who was elected to Parliament last year because he promised its imposition. He has led numerous recent rallies in Cairo mosques in an effort to mobilize popular opinion behind the fundamentalist Muslim groups.

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Hunters on trial for 'wife kidnap'

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In the old gold rush town of Virginia City, Montana, Daniel Boone Nichols went on trial yesterday, accused of kidnapping a woman in an attempt to make her his wife. He was also charged with killing a man who tried to rescue her.

His father, Donald Nichols, will be tried separately on similar charges.

The case is a sensation in Montana. Donald Nichols, who is 54, became obsessed with the idea of living in the wilderness regions of the Rocky Mountains and used to go off on long trips. He began to take his son, now 20, on his expeditions and formed the idea that they could be like old-time mountain men, independent and living by hunting.

And, according to the prosecution, he also sought a girl who would be his son's mate.

Last July, Karl Swenson, aged 23, an athlete, was running in the forest near the town of Big Sky when the

Danes put in claim on Rockall

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

Denmark yesterday formally claimed sea-bed rights over the so-called Faeroe-Rockall plateau in the North Atlantic between Iceland and the British Isles, calling for talks with Britain, Ireland and Iceland to resolve the dispute over territorial rights.

The Danes, who exercise control over Faeroes offshore territorial resources, claim rights over the so-called Faeroe-Rockall micro-continent, a 116,000 square mile area of the North Atlantic.

As early as the 1970s, Britain and Ireland put on record their claims to parts of the area.

While Denmark does not contest the sovereignty claimed by Britain over the uninhabited Rockall outcrop, 200 miles west of Scotland and near the contested area, it maintains that under international law the United Kingdom is entitled only to 12-mile submarine territorial rights off the Skerry.

One Egyptian observer close to the Islamic groups scathingly called the decision a government move to placate major foreign aid donors and investors.

"The Muslim groups will never stop calling for Sharia", he said.

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Arms talk: President Reagan and Señor González, Spain's Prime Minister, share a light moment yesterday in Madrid.

Euro-MPs challenge Reagan

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

A warning to President Reagan was made in German yesterday at the gates of France's only wartime extermination camp. "We in Europe see it differently from many people in Texas or California", Dr Bruno Kreisky, the former Austrian Chancellor, told a commemoration service for the dead of the camps organized by Socialist Members of the European Parliament.

His speech, made from the point where the ashes of the crematorium of Struthof concentration camp were tipped down the mountainside, was part of what was meant to be a counter-demonstration to all the razzmatazz of the past few days at Bitburg and Belsen.

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, the former US presidential contender, said as he led the prayers: "We leave the grave sites of Bitburg to fight for justice in Johannesburg. Today we choose the human race before the nuclear race... we must put the grain in the silos and not the missiles."

That is the kind of message the 80 or so members of the European Parliament's Peace Group, including the 32 British Labour MEPs, want to put across to President Reagan today as he makes what is meant to be another speech of reconciliation and world state-manship before the directly elected representatives of the EEC's 270 million citizens.

Last night they were holding a secret meeting to decide just

what tactic to adopt when the President speaks, although they were under orders from Mrs Barbara Castle, the Labour Group leader, to do nothing undignified which could be seen as a provocation.

Mr Richard Balf, a London Labour MEP, on Monday evening found 38 supporters to vote for his motion to delete the President's address from the agenda. But he does not plan any heckling today. "It has always been Labour Party policy to be kind to the elderly", he said.

The most likely protest will be wearing of giant lapel protest badges in an effort to be sure that President Reagan sees that there are many in Europe opposed to his policies. "When a foreign government proposes to finance the action of counter-revolutionaries against the government of another country," Dr Kreisky said, "we must act."

The affair has caused accusations and counter-accusations in Bonn. Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, who leads the Social

Democrats in the Bundestag, was quoted as pointing out that it was the first time that a visiting American President had failed to receive the chairman of the largest opposition party.

The broadly agreed version of the affair is that the outgoing US Ambassador, Mr Arthur Burns, had recommended that Mr Reagan receive Herr Brandt, but that his presumed successor, Mr Richard Burt, had advised against it. Mr Burt's view prevailed.

His grandmother, a sick old woman, was shot dead in her bed by the Nazis at her home in Poland.

While the politicians have been planning their welcome, the security preparations for the four-hour visit to Strasbourg have reached fever pitch. An entire floor of the Hilton hotel has been taken over by White House staff for the past three weeks and a special bathroom has been prepared there for his use should he decide on the spur of the moment to drop in as he drives past.

There have been serious protocol problems to sort out as well over whether President Mitterrand should be on hand to welcome his American opposite number on French soil. In the end, M Pierre Pflimlin, the President of the Parliament, won the argument that as this was a visit to the extra-territorial assembly, there was no proper place for a French President.

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Hitler diary forger sold fake ashes to journalist

Hamburg (Reuters) - Konrad Kujau, who confessed to forging the Hitler diaries told a court here that he also provided Gerd Heidemann, the journalist to whom he sold them, with fake ashes of the Nazi dictator.

Those were supplied by a friend who worked in a crematorium.

Kujau, a dealer in Nazi memorabilia, and the former Stern magazine reporter are charged with fraud in connection with the sale of the forged diaries to Stern in 1982. The case was adjourned until June.

Soviet don defects

Stockholm (Reuters) - A Soviet professor has applied for political asylum in Sweden after defecting from the Soviet Union via Finland.

Police said Assistant Professor Yuri Nagzodsky applied for asylum and a residence permit after arriving by ferry from Helsinki.

Common market

Brussels (Reuters) - European Community ministers agreed on new rules aimed at creating simpler and quicker common technical standards for manufactured products. The accord was hailed by diplomats as an important step towards the free flow of goods in a truly common European market.

Jail hit again

Paris (AP) - Trouble flared again yesterday at one of three French prisons hit by riotous inmates. About 15 young inmates clambered on to the prison roof at Bois d'Arcy south-east of here.

Flights delayed

Lisbon (Reuters) - An indefinite strike by maintenance staff was causing delays and cancellations of flights by Portugal's national airline TAP Air Portugal yesterday, but the airline said flights to several European capitals, including London, were maintained.

Aids appeal

Geneva (Reuters) - The United States appealed to member states of the World Health Organization to form an international alliance to combat Aids.

\$1m on Mengele

Jerusalem (AFP) - Israel will pay a \$1 million reward for the capture of Josef Mengele, the Justice Minister said.

Peru debt threat

Lima (AFP) - Peru's virtual President-elect, Señor Alan García Pérez, says he will consider suspending payments on the country's \$14 billion foreign debt for two years when he takes office in July.

Briton accused

Taipei (Reuters) - A British sailor, Mr Robert Heaton, from Sunderland, accused of starting a fire on a freighter which killed three people will face charges of arson and probably manslaughter. Taiwan court officials said.

Ship seized

Greenpeace's flagship has been seized by Belgian authorities after battling to prevent toxic waste dumping in the North Sea. The environmental group faces a £65,000 compensation claim from shipowners for using the Sirius to lay siege to the port of Antwerp over the weekend.

Death verdicts

Kuala Lumpur (Reuters) - A Malaysian court sentenced eight Hong Kong residents to death for drug trafficking on the holiday island of Penang. Lawyers said it was the largest number of people to be sent to the gallows in a single drugs case in Malaysia.

'Shoot on sight'

Cotonou (AFP) - Security forces in the West African state of Benin have been ordered to shoot on sight at student protesters after the closure of universities and secondary schools in the country which followed a week-long class boycott.

Panic buying

Dar es Salaam (AP) - A statement by President Nyerere of Tanzania that imports would be more tightly regulated sent shoppers on a spree of panic buying here.

Ottawa reviews Helsinki

Wrangling begins on human rights

From John Best, Ottawa

Representatives of 35 nations sat down at a conference table in Ottawa yesterday to discuss implementation of the human rights provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Accord.

But even as the conference scheduled to last six weeks, opened, and despite two weeks of preparatory work, there was wrangling between Eastern and Western delegates over how it should be run.

Delegates met all through Monday night to discuss the agenda and rules of procedure, finally breaking up at 8 am yesterday with an agreement to launch the conference in late afternoon with the Canadian Affairs Minister, Mr Joe Clark, delivering the opening address.

That appeared to be all that was agreed, as exhausted delegates adjourned for a few hours' rest.

Western countries, led by the United States, want to open up the sessions to as much press coverage as possible, while the Soviet Union wants to keep a tight lid on proceedings.

Beyond that, another dispute was reported to be brewing over Soviet insistence that each country discuss its own record, and Western insistence that participants should have the right to examine each other's record.

The United States, Canada and other Western countries want to raise questions about the arrests of several hundred people in different Soviet bloc countries for attempting to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Final Act, from Europe as well as from North America, are attending the meeting.

Among other matters, the West also wants to examine the

Ariane aims to exploit US setback

Kourou (Reuters) - An Ariane rocket was due to blast off from French Guyana last night carrying two satellites and Europe's hopes of cashing in on setbacks suffered by the US space shuttle.

The mission will be the 13th in the Ariane series and the fifth since the Arianspace consortium took over commercial operations from the 11-nation European Space Agency.

Thirteen hours before the scheduled lift-off time Frédéric d'Allest, head of Arianspace, said there had been a hitch with the automatic fuelling system. "There was a valve in the ground equipment that wasn't working and we had to switch to manual. But there is no problem, everything is going ahead."

The rocket's payload will consist of two communications satellites, the French Government's Telecom 1B and Gstar 1 for the American GTE Space-net company. Ariane has already launched two satellites for GTE.

European officials say Ariane has about 50 per cent of the commercial satellite market, but expect the shuttle to increase its share.

Arianspace has launched seven satellites commercially and has 18 firm contracts. Business so far has been worth about £520 million.

Sixteen more launches have been reserved, including two by China, which wants its own communications satellites.

Arianspace officials are worried that their programme is suffering from rising insurance rates resulting from the space shuttle's problems with satellite launches.

Tebbit to ease trade path

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Norman Tebbit arrived here yesterday for two days of intensive talks on trade and related issues at the centre of acrimonious transatlantic exchanges. His visit, regarded as important in view of his Cabinet position, would have taken place earlier but for his injuries in the Brighton bombing.

Mr Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will follow up themes discussed at the Bonn summit, and in

particular new, international trade talks.

Yesterday he saw Mr William Brock, the US Labour Secretary, and Mr Edwin Meese, Attorney General. He emphasized Britain's refusal to accept US extra-territorial legislation, as well as issues he will take up today with Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the Commerce Secretary; the transfer of technology, anti-trust laws and the Laker Airways case.

Mengistu disclaimer

From Zoriana Pysarski, New York

Sandinistas take war to rebels Contras camp hit in Honduras

From Christopher Thomas Washington

The long-expected Nicaraguan Army offensive against the anti-Sandinista Contras appears to have begun with a fierce attack on a guerrilla camp, according to United States intelligence sources.

Nicaraguan soldiers attacking the guerrilla camp of Las Vegas in Honduras have crossed the border in large numbers for the first time.

First reports reaching the administration have suggested that the Sandinistas lost 50 men and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) suffered about 12 dead.

About two weeks ago, the Sandinistas began shelling the base from their side of the border, raising speculation that a big anti-guerrilla operation was getting under way. The bombardment apparently lasted intermittently from 10 am until midnight.

American intelligence analysts differ on whether the latest offensive is the start of a big new campaign or whether it is a preliminary action designed to test FDN defences.

The guerrillas' supply base, known as La Ladosa, to the west of Las Vegas, has apparently also been attacked.

The intensity of engagements between the Sandinistas and guerrillas inside Nicaraguan territory has supposedly increased in the past fortnight. A US intelligence source told *The Times* that the Sandinistas could have virtually wiped out the FDN as a fighting force two weeks ago, when the guerrillas ran out of ammunition and 8,000 men were assembled in Las Vegas awaiting deliveries.

The guerrillas re-supplied the camp on April 21 and 22, using hired lorries, the source said. At a point called Totocacinte, the vehicles passed within 30 yards of the Nicaraguan border.

on their way to Las Vegas, but were not fired upon.

"For all I know, the trucks had 'Gonzales Bakery' written on the side. They certainly weren't the trucks the FDN normally uses and it fooled the Sandinistas," the source added.

"It was a great missed opportunity. Now there are only 1,000 to 2,000 people in the camp. The FDN is back doing what it likes to do - infiltrating into the countryside and coming in against the Sandinistas from the rear."

American intelligence estimates that the Sandinistas have 40,000 soldiers in the northern combat zone, principally in a broad arc south of the Las Vegas camp. Many farmers sympathetic to the guerrillas are known to have been forcibly moved out of the region by the Sandinista authorities.

The source added that at two points to the south of the camp, Sandinista forces were extend-

ing all-weather roads almost to the border to facilitate the movement of heavy guns during the rainy season, which is about to start.

NEW YORK: The UN Security Council was expected today to take up formally Nicaragua's complaint against the Reagan Administration for its decision to impose a trade embargo against the Sandinista Government. (Zoriana Pysarski writes).

Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, the Foreign Minister, was due to address the opening meeting of the Council, which would be part of a concerted attempt by Nicaragua to bring political pressure on the US to lift the sanctions. Many countries were expected to voice their sympathy with Nicaragua although it was not yet clear what specific action Nicaragua would demand from the Security Council.

Costa Rica turnabout on US military advisers

From Martha Honey, San José

A score of US military advisers arrived this week to supervise the training of Costa Rica's first anti-terrorist battalion, which will be deployed along the northern border with Nicaragua.

According to Costa Rican and American sources, 750 civil guardsmen will take part in a five-month course, which will include instruction in the use of automatic rifles, mortars, 50 calibre machine guns, and 90mm recoilless rifles.

The Minister of Public

Security, Señor Benjamin Piza, said in an interview that the advisers will give practical and specialized police training necessary for patrolling the border. He said there are currently no other American military advisers in the country.

The training will take place at a newly-constructed base, nine miles from the Nicaraguan border at a seaside villa once owned by the former Nicaraguan dictator, Anastasio Somoza.

The presence of foreign

military advisers in the volatile northern zone represents a turnabout in Costa Rican policy. Last year President Luis Alberto Monge vetoed a US plan to send military engineers for training exercises along the border because, he said, it might provoke Nicaragua.

Costa Rica has no army and maintains an official policy of neutrality.

Under a \$18.5 million (£15 million) military aid package for 1984 and 1985, Costa Rica has also begun to receive for the first time "lethal" weapons, as

well as helicopters, light aircraft, patrol boats and troop carriers.

Senor Piza and other conservatives argue that the anti-terrorist battalion and better weapons are necessary because the 10,000-member security force needs modernizing to handle the increased incursions from Nicaragua.

Opponents argue the border incidents are provoked by the presence of anti-Sandinista guerrillas in the zone, which, they say, Costa Rican security officials have done little to prevent.



Alternative markets: Señor Jaime Wheelock, Nicaragua's Agriculture Minister, announcing in Managua that bananas barred from the US will go to Belgium and elsewhere.

Black union leader dies after arrest by S African police

Johannesburg, (Reuters) -

South African police yesterday said they were investigating the death of a black union leader shortly after he was freed from police detention. The union said he died of head injuries.

An official at Diepkloof mortuary, who declined to be named, said Mr Andries Raditsela appeared to have been assaulted.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said he died soon after being freed from detention, but had no other details.

Mr Raditsela, senior shop steward at a Dunlop Industrial Products plant, died on Monday in Baragwanath Hospital, near Soweto.

The Chemical Workers Industrial Union said in a statement that he died in the neurological ward of head injuries. A union official said Mr Raditsela was arrested by men in camouflage uniforms on Saturday and charged under the Internal Security Act.

The union said Mr Raditsela, also on the executive council of the Federation of South African Trade Unions, was seized in the nearby Tsakane black township after being questioned about a car hired for him by Fosatu.

The union official said Mr Raditsela was in good health at the time of his arrest but was admitted to hospital shortly afterwards. The charges were withdrawn on Monday before the union leader died.

The union said in its statement that Mr Raditsela was seen by his parents in a distressed condition at local government offices after his arrest. His parents later traced him to the neurological ward at Baragwanath.

Incidents involving blacks detained by police have become a sensitive issue in South Africa since the black consciousness leader Steve Biko died in detention in 1977.

His death, along with a ban on black consciousness groups, were factors which led to a UN arms embargo on South Africa.

Police said yesterday that arson and rioting which have killed more than 150 people this year continued in black townships throughout the country overnight.

In Soweto, a leading anti-apartheid activist, the Rev Frank Chikane, said his home was petrol-bombed, three days after he was freed on bail after spending months in prison awaiting trial on treason charges.

Mr Chikane, a top official of the multi-racial United Democratic Front, said he did not believe the attack was carried out by black consciousness groups.

Town under curfew after Sikh killing

Delhi (Reuters) - Sikh extremists have killed two Hindus including the son of a local leader of the Prime Minister.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi's party, adding to the tension in Punjab, were rushed to the scene of the killings on Monday night in the Hindu-majority northern Punjab town of Dhariwal, which was placed under 24-hour curfew.

Police said reinforcements were called in after some Hindus started attacking Sikh shops and pedestrians in retaliation for the murders. A bus and several shops were set on fire.

They said six extremists shot dead Ramesh Kumar, son of Ram Ladhya, head of Dhariwal section of Mr Gandhi's Congress (I) party, at his farm. A servant was also killed and a third man was wounded.

Opera house feud ends in sacking

Bonn (Reuters) - The city of Bonn has dismissed its chief orchestra conductor after a dispute during which he has slapped the director of the opera house and attacked its cultural standards.

Herr Hans Daniels, the Mayor of Bonn, on Monday night ordered the dismissal of the Austrian conductor Gustav Kuhn, aged 39, after he attacked the opera house director, Jean-Claude Riber, in an interview in the news magazine *Der Spiegel*.

The dismissal capped an artistic feud between the two men that reached its boiling point two weeks ago when Herr Kuhn slapped Mr Riber in front of Bonn's cultural committee.

Herr Kuhn told *Der Spiegel* that Bonn was "still too provincial" when it came to cultural matters.

Lange says NZ battalion will stay in Singapore

Wellington (Reuters) - New Zealand troops will stay in Singapore as long as their presence is welcomed by the Association of South-East Asian Nations, Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said.

He said New Zealand had "given a commitment to those governments that there will be no unilateral withdrawal" of the infantry battalion.

The commitment to continuing New Zealand's presence there had been made under the Five Power Defence Arrangements between New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Britain, he said.

The statement appeared to reverse a commitment to rebase the battalion in New Zealand, part of the Labour Party's general election campaign last year.

But Mr Lange said he had told Singapore: "We will be sensitive to their concerns... We are there essentially in a guest situation."

SINGAPORE: The Trade and Industry Minister, Mr Richard Hu, has taken over the key finance portfolio, a move seen by the Singapore business community as heralding a more liberal monetary and financial policy (Reuters reports).

Greek Parliament dissolved

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The Greek Parliament was dissolved by presidential decree yesterday after approving the Government's constitutional reforms. The same decree set the next general election, as expected, for June 2.

The constitutional amendments, which essentially deprive the President of the right to dissolve Parliament, dismiss the Prime Minister, or proclaim a state of siege, were passed in a second reading by an enhanced Socialist-Communist majority of 182 deputies.

The changes take effect only when the next Parliament, which is due to be convened on June 17, ratifies them by an absolute majority of 151 votes

out of 300. The dissolved Parliament was elected in 1981.

The conservative opposition has condemned the amendments, claiming that they transfer most of the President's prerogatives to the executive. They accused the ruling Socialists of tampering with the Constitution's checks and balances and said they were revealing their totalitarian intentions.

The political parties have already launched spirited campaigns which feature gigantic rallies in most towns, at which politicians promise voters more prosperity for less money and work.

The pre-electoral largesse

coincides with gloomy forecasts about the economy.

The two main parties, the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasek) and the opposition New Democracy, which is drastically refurbishing its image as a centre-right party, have created such polarization that many small parties surrender to them almost unconditionally to secure a place in the sun.

In keeping with pre-electoral practice, the ministers of the interior, justice, public order and the press under-secretary are to be replaced this week by non-political people in the hope of ensuring that the elections will be honest and fair.

Police car bombed in ETA area

Madrid - A car bomb yesterday injured a police lieutenant in the northern Spanish city of Pamplona (Harry Debelius writes). The military wing of ETA, the terrorist organization demanding Basque independence, is suspected. Lieutenant José Maria Izquierdo, aged 45, is in a very serious condition.

The bomb exploded only a day after an Interior Ministry official, Señor Rafael Vera, admitted in Valencia that he was not sure whether all bombs set by ETA in its campaign had been found.

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The art of hailing a taxi

Waving your arms and yelling "taxi, taxi" generally won't work. A cab is only available if the four-digit number, in the center of the rooftop light, is lit up. If the light reads OFF DUTY, or ON RADIO CALL, the cab is not available. If the light is off,

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Some of the best stands are found in and around Rockefeller Center (where you can actually sit down as you eat "on-the-run" amidst lush gardens and glittering skyscrapers). The best part, however, is the price—under £2.40 for most.

What's going on

There's always something new going on in New York City. To find out what's happening the week you get here, be sure to stop by the New York Convention & Visitors Bureau.

They'll supply you with everything you need—maps, guides and

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THE ARTS

Alan Parker thought long and hard before finding the way to make *Birdy*, a leading American entry at the Cannes Festival, which begins today. Melinda Camber Porter reports

Obsessive flights of passion

"I never compromise any single frame. I'm in control of my work as much as anyone could be. Every single frame. And no single person in the world is telling me to do it differently." So says Alan Parker, talking about his film *Birdy*.

Explaining why he has continued to make films within the Hollywood system, Parker says: "I've always had a good time. An easy time. I should say, with the studios because they like what we do. And what we do is in an area that is difficult to pinpoint: I make personal films with artistic integrity. I think I've been very fortunate. I'm in a pretty good situation having the freedom to do exactly what I want to do in my work."

"You hear stories to think of these evil people in Hollywood sitting around Beverly Hills pools. A great deal of them are imbeciles. But some of them are very sensitive. The American film industry isn't just about commercial movies or blockbusters."

Parker's choice of subject for his new film is proof of the freedom offered him. *Birdy* is an intensely poetic novel, containing the diary of a young boy who finds an alternative life among birds; he breeds birds, talks to birds, learns from birds, and has a friend, another boy entering manhood, who believes himself to be a bird. When Parker first read the novel he wanted to make a film of it, but could not see how to keep the narrator's high-pitched poetic sensi-

bility and still make an accessible screenplay.

"When I was sent this book, in 1979, I didn't know how to do it. I felt it was beautifully poetic, the kind of film we should do. Then I forgot about it. Until the two boys who had written the original screenplay (Sandy Kroopf and Jack Behr) sent me a version. They cracked the structure. The basic difference between the book and the film is that the film is about two people, not one. In a film you can't make people merge as you can with words. You can't reveal *alter egos* by using italics. I haven't explored the area of schizophrenia that is in the book. If I were making an avant-garde film I suppose I could change 'my language'. But you can often be too intimidated by a good book. We were doing a film. And the film has to have a life of its own. We were not doing the film of the book."

Watching Parker on set, one can see why he has such sympathy for another obsessive, passionate character. He is never still and never lets up even during breaks in filming. If he has to wait for the next shot to be set up, one finds him joking with the actors, or entertaining them with bizarre tap-dances; or rehearsing, yet again, the sequence to be shot.

Parker does not distance himself from his team. "I don't know how other directors work, but I always touch everybody, anyway. I walk around and put my hand on people's shoulders, which other people find quite humorous. I suppose it is funny to see me put my arm on an

electrician's shoulder when everything's going well."

The core of Parker's team has been with him for 15 years. *Birdy* is his ninth film with the British producer Alan Marshall. And his director of photography, Michael Seresin, worked with him on *Midnight Express*, *Bugsy Malone*, *Flame and Shot the Moon*. "I work with the same people all the time. It isn't necessary for me to stalk around with a megaphone and boots and do the caricature of the film director. And it means that the dialogue that's required is so minimal. I can tell Michael Seresin - I can describe a shot, composition, field of light with a movement of the hand. Or he'll just look at me and sense what I want to stress in a scene. It's now become an immediate understanding, but it took a long time."

"That understanding makes you feel very comfortable as a film-maker. You know that you've got all the help you can get. And we all do need help. I keep going on about this, but no one seems to understand that no movie was ever made by one person."

Parker tells the story of his early years with a mischievous delight. While there is some truth to the hardships he endured, he admits that he rose very quickly in the advertising agency where he started his professional career, and by the age of 24 was directing commercials, and learning the basics of his craft. He is adamant that advertising has not influenced or formed his approach.

"It irritates me when people think that advertising has anything to do



Parker in action: "I've been very fortunate"

with the way I make films. It hasn't. All that came from the experience was that I was able to make some original commercials and shoot thousands of feet of film, and know my craft. Craft is what you get from commercials. But it didn't teach me anything about the intellectual process one has to go through in order to make a film. It doesn't give you the sensibility that is required. It was pure craft and it's this understanding of craft that has allowed me to practice my art. "Now I've reached the stage where I like the idea of being an English

director, instead of looking for international films to make" (which normally means looking for something with Jacqueline Bisset and Omar Sharif). I've stayed English and my children are very English, and they influence me quite a lot. I've had a love-affair with America which is still going on. I don't know how to make American blockbuster movies. They are completely alien to me. But, by living in England and returning there, I do get a distance from Hollywood and I manage to maintain an English perspective."

Television

Before the curtain

Anniversaries tax the wits of the media and engage them, one might think, possibly more than they do the readers and viewers - most of whom, after all, will not have the memory of the event itself.

Yorkshire set themselves a formidable task to trace and unite the Americans and Russians who met on the Elbe on April 25, 1945, and were extremely thorough, as we saw in First Tuesday last night, about it. The picture that was flashed around the world then was of Lieutenant Bill Robertson's patrol meeting that of Lieutenant Alexander Sylvaschko at Torgau. In fact, three hours earlier, at Strelha, Lieutenant Albert (Buck) Kotzebue's patrol had met Acting Sergeant Alexander Orishansky's. Communications from Strelha being inferior to those at Torgau, the latter took the honours.

The producer Kevin Sim and the director Barry Cockcroft decided that both meetings should be celebrated. Mr Robertson, a retired neurosurgeon, was flown to meet Mr Sylvaschko at the latter's school near Minsk and Mr Kotzebue was flown to embrace Major General Orishansky once more on the Elbe.

The marvel, as Dr Johnson said in another context, was that it was done at all. Mr Robertson recalled how sentries had separated the joyous troops within days; Mr Sylvaschko saw no barriers to their friendship now but remarked darkly that

"there are still forces in the world which fail to promote our friendship".

It was obviously a great moment for four old soldiers, leading someone to remark that the "things that cause dissension between nations are things that soldiers are not really aware of", an understandable sentiment in moments of nostalgia but not, of course, forty years on in the cold war, trust.

D-Day to Berlin was a *Newsnight Special* on BBC1 and a scoop, though it owed that to the entrepreneurial spirit of the celebrated director George Stevens. He and a team of "Hollywood irregulars" were commissioned by Eisenhower to film what happened from the landings onwards. Mr Stevens, for his private record, took along what was then the revolutionary 16mm Kodak colour camera and a stock of film. Eisenhower had to make do with the black and white version.

Thanks to Mr Stevens' son, who discovered his father's forgotten film in the archives after his death, we saw the colour version for the first time. Members of the film unit filled in Robert Harris's commentary. It was an impressive piece of film, covering Normandy, the Ardennes breakthrough, the Paris liberation, the Elbe link-up, Berchtesgaden and, most horrifically, Dachau, which I think looked even worse in colour.

Dennis Hackett

Concerts

Impressionist inspiration

LPO/Tennstedt Festival Hall

We critics are usually supposed to disdain popular programmes, and to long for exotic rarities; but I think what we actually disdain (and what there are far too many of in London at present) are mediocre performances of popular programmes.

With a conductor like Klaus Tennstedt, and the London Philharmonic in top form, there is no need to have any reservations about a coupling of Beethoven's Sixth and Seventh Symphonies: the results are powerful, individual and creative. Tennstedt is never content to let an orchestra play through its normal interpretations and hope that what comes out is merely professional.

The LPO does not have any strong, characterful Beethoven tradition like, for instance, that

of the Philharmonia; its accounts have been moulded, I suppose by Solti. Haitink, in the more distant past, Boulton, all classicists who, with varying degrees of restraint, presented him, exceptionally well-organized Beethoven.

Tennstedt is at the opposite pole. He is an impressionist, and often an impressionist too in the flowing brook of the "Pastoral" Symphony he sees a scene of cool sensuality such as would not disgrace Ravel. At times he dares hardly let the orchestra sound, as the clouds clear on the last movement of the "Pastoral", or the tread of the Seventh Symphony Allegretto dies away; while at others he flails and beats them into action like a madman - in the almost hysterical finale of the Seventh.

Between these extremes, however, there is a directness of response to this music, and above all a gentle, natural

understanding of how simple orchestral sounds can be, which makes every bar of his readings continually vibrant and vivid. Where Solti would clip a chord into place, Tennstedt encircles it with his arms and breathes it into life.

It would be wrong to pretend that this does not pose some problems for the orchestra: at the very end of the "Pastoral", after a climax that was at all times a bit wary, when the strings *sotto voce* phrases as a dream-like thought without, bylines, when the music runs away, as it did at the end of the Seventh, there is no hope of stopping it. But in the "Pastoral" peasants' merry-making he drew pungent, perky playing from the LPO: this may not be stylish Beethoven, or even quite coherent Beethoven, but it is wholly convincing on its own terms.

Nicholas Kenyon

Martino Tirimo Wigmore Hall

Ten years after his complete Schubert sonata cycle on the South Bank, the Greek-born pianist Martino Tirimo is doing it all over again at the Wigmore Hall. There are to be six recitals on 5, 11 and 25 of both May and June, and the BBC will be making 12 programmes out of them.

It is an event of undoubted documentary value, for Mr Tirimo is a scholar and editor every bit as much as he is a pianist. The recitals are carefully planned, with early, little-known and late works to be represented in each programme,

as well as completions of the many unfinished movements from Tirimo's own as yet unpublished edition.

Every bar, every phrase, every minuscule and on the whole convincingly appended note, breathes Tirimo's affection and reverence. The thorough logic and the conscientiousness with which he has completed the outer two movements of the D571 Sonata reveals itself too in his minute control of accent, dynamic structure and development. One can almost see the pencil markings. The scale of the D459 *Für Klavierstücke*, as they were originally presented, was perfectly sensed; their unity as a Sonata (omitting the second scherzo) was strongly argued.

But Tirimo's diligent tying up of every loose end has its limitations in performance. The D845 A minor Sonata, for example, even more than the two earlier works, seemed incomplete in its very completeness. For his playing, with all its extreme sensitivity, its intelligence and discipline, is a seamless garment; phrasing too often becomes enclosed within its own exquisite mould, climaxes stifled by their strictly regulated scope. There is so much of value on the page and in the head, but as yet without the sort of imaginative engagement which frees it to engage in turn with the listener.

Hilary Finch

Helplessly funny, and heartbreaking too: Jim Dale and Stockard Channing in *Joe Egg*



art and/or first-rate entertainment, but that has seldom happened. Having only a few of each now, the district houses a plethora of dark theatres. Some of them could be lighted, showing decent if undistinguished plays with fine actors, if only critics and audiences refused to be outraged or to feel guilty when a work is not superior but may be modestly enjoyable.

The same win-or-lose mood prevails Off Broadway, where an imperfect but frequently gripping drama about a Jewish family and their gentle neighbours on the eve of Babi Yar, *Before the Dawn* (American Place Theatre) faded quickly. Thus exemplary performances by Roberts Maxwell, Elisa Loti, Betty Miller and other stalwarts will go unseen and unsung.

Happier news is that the Circle Repertory Company and the Manhattan Theatre Club, which have had weak seasons,

both have winners. Circle Rep's co-production with The Glines, an organization which promotes gay art, is a play about AIDS, *As Is*.

The MTC's *Digby* is a cheerful romantic comedy by Joseph Dougherty about an

earnest young man who desires casual sex and decides to seek a platonic relationship. His plans predictably come adrift when he falls for his pal and she for him, in spite of interference by her three lovers.

Anthony Head (the spritely who left the title role in *The Foreigner* for that of *Digby*) and Roxanne Hart (The luscious Kate in Peter Nichols's *Passion* on Broadway) are so beguiling as the not-quite-sweethearts that I would go to see them perform even in a piece of junk. It is too bad that we do not have enough terrific new plays to match the terrific actors I have named. But I think it is better for them to act and for us to see them in obviously ephemeral works than to keep the theatres closed until the unlikely day when they all turn into temples of Art.

Holly Hill

Theatre in Britain

Gentleman Jim Playhouse, Nottingham

Bringing cartoon characters to the stage poses a problem of scale, in that their enlargement to human size reduces their impact and negates the filmic intimacies of the original medium. Raymond Briggs's stage version of one of his most successful "picture books" deliberately dwarfs the actors with outsize sets and ambitious technical effects.

Jim Bloggs, lavatory attendant, feels he is in a rut. "There's not much of an opportunity for self-advancement", as he puts it, "in toilets." Scanning the sissies in *The Times*, he is amazed at the salaries offered and at the qualifications required. But then all life outside his circumscribed routine is a source of amazement: here is a man baffled by everything more coherent and rigorous than a bus timetable.

The play proceeds by illustrating his fantasies as he

imagines himself, serially, as a commando biffing Jerry, as the rear gunner in a bomber, as a Hancockian genius of the Paris art world, as a Wild West gunslinger and finally as the high-wireman of the title. These are very ordinary fantasies which Mr Briggs's script renders in a very ordinary way, with pallid language, tooth-hand references and a reliance on bathos which excludes any possibility of pathos.

Jim's endeavours to kit out his daydreams founder on the

reef of expense, for his ideas about the price of guns and horses are as quaint as the heroic roles he seeks to fill. He ends up with a rubber sword, a joke-shop pistol and a free donkey, which last item leads to foreseeable confrontations with various parodic representations of officialdom.

Fred Lee plays Jim as a whimsical, malapropistic dandy whose late flowering of ambition surprises himself as much as it does anyone else. Maryann Turner provides a

useful counterbalance as his indulgent, mothering wife. The admirable Sally Dexter is quite wasted in minor roles. Andrew Hay's production plays second fiddle to Robert Jones's design, whose two-tier stage supplies the setting for some extravagant effects; unfortunately, the clouds that stream so prettily across the upper backcloth remind one of the wedges of cotton wool to be found in sleeping-pill bottles.

Martin Cropper

Sonata in which high drama was counterbalanced by true lyrical poetry. Balakirev's *Island* and three pieces by Rachmaninov confirmed technical prowess, though formidable arm-weight sometimes militated against musical refinement and sensuous tonal beauty. Beethoven's "Appassionata" got into its stride in the finale; the first two movements would have benefited from slightly faster tempo and tauter rhythm.

Joan Chissell

In her reading of Bach's English Suite in A minor, the American pianist Nancy Nicholson displayed a pleasingly sonorous touch that only occasionally seemed too heavy. Sometimes here her tempos in the faster movements were slightly unsteady, and in Schumann's *Waldscenen* there was a certain stiffness of expression, though one could still sense the intent of the poetry in this magical sequence. But without doubt Miss Nicholson was at her best in Copland's Piano Variations of 1930; hers was a taut performance permeated with strength and musicianly insights.

Stephen Pettitt

London débuts

Trumpeter with few limitations

highly charged, was a splendid keyboard partner who affirmed a keen ear for keyboard colour in solo sonatas by Scriabin and Sven-Erik Bäck.

There was further supremely accomplished, spontaneously communicative music-making from the Berlin Philharmonic Duo (Jörg Baumann, cello, and Klaus Stoll, double bass) in a surprising variety of original works, old and new, for this unusual medium, including

three spectral 'Fantasies' by David Collins and a group of more vividly imagined, phantasmagoric movements from Dieter Salbert's *Saltenspiele* (1983), none of them previously heard in London. In Barrière, Boccherini, Rossini, Pleyel and Paganini (all played from memory) there was never a moment's heaviness thanks to glowing cantabile (never mind initially nervous intonation in the cello's plangent upper

register), mercurial agility, buoyant rhythm, flexible phrasing and above all else superlative balance. More intimate given-and-take than between these two BPO principals would be difficult to imagine.

Of the week's two pianists, Joanna MacGregor surmounted prodigious technical hurdles with minimal effort but impressed still more for intuitive musical understanding and ability to involve her listeners. Nothing was more of a *tour de force* than James Dillon's Baudelaire-inspired "Spleen" (1980), in itself an orgy of novel sonority, pianistic as Liszt, without recourse to prepared piano gimmickry, but she was just as responsive to the intimacy of Brahms's three Op 117 Intermezzi, played with beautiful clarity as well as exuberant impulse, even if the first two needed a little more smouldering inner intensity.

Károly Mocskári, Hungarian winner of the last Terence Judd Award, was at his best on native soil, and especially in an expansive account of Liszt's

For some people, life didn't go back to normal in 1945.

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Theatre in America Fine actors deserve a better fate

Some of Broadway's problems are unquestionably due to the perversity of critics, and their readers, who have fallen into an all-or-nothing mood. We are always in danger of forgetting that art and entertainment only occasionally coincide but should be encouraged to co-exist, that excellence is an exception and mediocrity the rule, and that critics must distinguish between these categories as best they can and behave like informed judges, not executioners.

As illustration of the failure to remember these precepts, take two flops and one tenuous prospect among recent Broadway openings. The two flops were *Requiem for a Heavyweight* (four performances) and *The Octette Bridge Club* (24 performances). Influential critics wrote that both plays were mediocre and, although some performances were highly praised, these were death notices.

Requiem for a Heavyweight is indeed mediocre. Fifteen melodrama with stereotyped characters, but it takes only a little imagination to see that Rod Serling's story about a washed-up prizefighter, untrained for, but eager to take on, any other respectable job, is poignantly applicable to the plight of the unemployed today. At the performance I saw, the show had people on their feet cheering long before curtain-call, and John Lithgow's clinically detailed portrait of the heavyweight was of a rare stature.

The *Octette Bridge Club* was

a sentimental comedy about eight sisters. With no claim whatsoever to art, the true-to-life sisterly rituals, jokes, irritations, taboos and solidarity were pleasantly strung together and choicely performed by some of America's finest supporting actresses, including Nancy Marchand, Anne Piro, and Elizabeth Franz. *Octette* was a quintessential matinee ladies' play, and I imagine that sufficient men might have chuckled along - goodness knows, women have smiled through enough mediocre all-male plays - to give it a run.

The tenuous prospect is Peter Nichols's *Joe Egg* (Longacre Theatre), which has just moved to Broadway after a successful run at Off-Broadway's Roundabout Theatre. There Arvin Brown's production, with Jim Dale and Stockard Channing being helplessly funny and heartbreaking as the over-stressed parents, won rave reviews. So rapturous, evidently, that some critics refused to review the Broadway opening, even though there had been a cast change.

This forced the producers to run advertisements reprinting the most influential review, greatly adding to their costs when they were entitled to be freshly evaluated. Without new press attention *Joe Egg* is already having a struggle to attract audiences. If this production dies, the critics (or their editors) who could not be bothered to cover it should wear black hoods.

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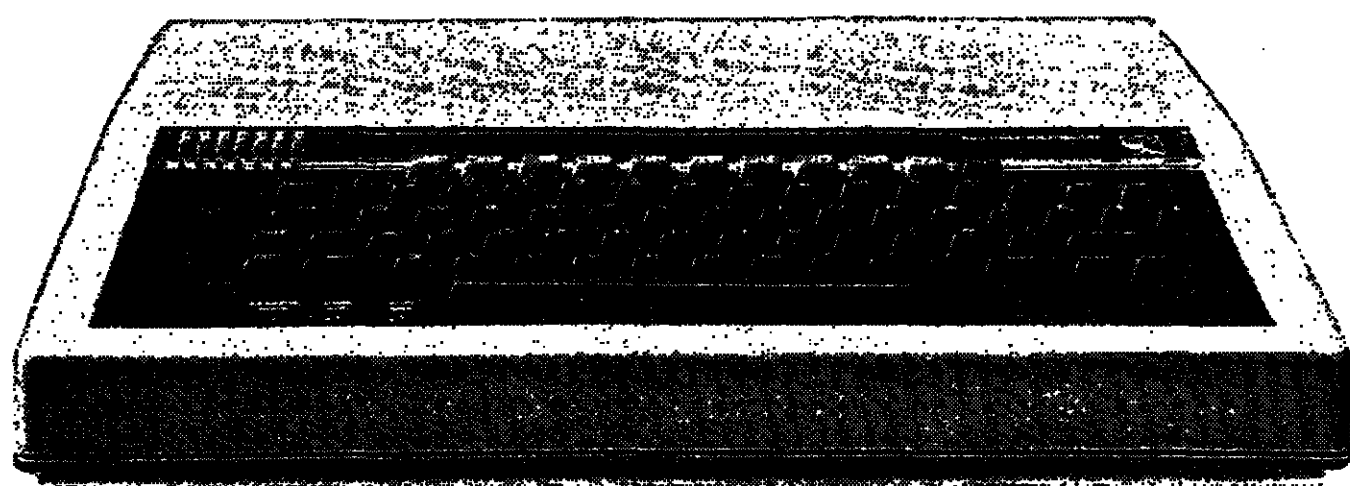
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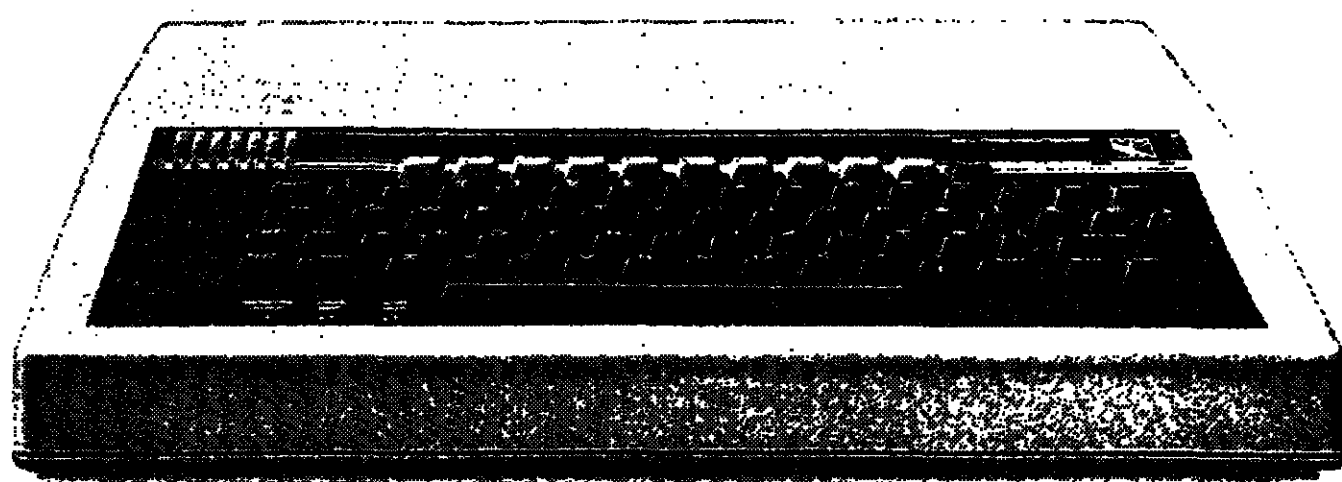
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SPECTRUM

Not all cream from the Cornish Duchy

Ten years ago the Prince of Wales brought in a team of top businessmen to drag his ailing empire of out-dated farms and run-down properties into the 20th century.

Peter McHugh reports on the progress of the royal farmer who is determined that the Duchy of Cornwall can and must be run as a vibrant, profitable business operation



The Duchy of Cornwall is the oldest dukedom in England, created in 1337 by Edward the Third with the specific task of providing an income for the heir to the throne. Six hundred and forty eight years later, the Prince of Wales, who is the twenty-fourth Duke of Cornwall, presides over a family firm which owns almost 130,000 acres in nine counties of England and Wales.

In 1983, the income Prince Charles is entitled to as Duke is provided by earnings not just from agriculture, but from property rents and investments in stock and shares. As a major landowner, the Duchy should expect the bulk of its income to come from agricultural rents. But of the 130,000 acres it owns, more than half are on Dartmoor and part of the National Park, and are thus protected against redevelopment, as are most of the 4,000 acres on the Isles of Scilly. But the Duchy does have 180 tenants farming at least 50 acres each, most farming more than 100 acres.

Of the rest of the Duchy land, 2,400 acres in Cornwall is commercial woodlands. The Duchy also holds mineral rights on a further 56,000 acres and is the owner of 140 miles of foreshore and estuary on the South-west coast.

The Duchy is also landlord to 1,300 people who live in its houses and flats, as well as 100 more who rent Duchy property for small businesses. In addition the Duchy holds the leases on five office blocks in south London. The old manor of Kennington, part of the original Duchy, still houses most of its rented accommodation. At the end of 1983 Duchy investment in stocks and shares had a value of £8,840,184.

MPs will be told shortly that Charles probably earned more than a million pounds last year — a quarter of which he will voluntarily hand over to the Exchequer. So it might seem that the Prince is sitting pretty, but the truth is that when he turned his full attention to the business after his spell in the Royal Navy he was shocked to discover that, far from being a vibrant business, the Duchy had still to catch up with the 20th century.

When Edward started the ball rolling he could not have foreseen how 650 years of inflation would hit economic rents like those set for the tenant farmers on the Isles of Scilly: "300 Puffin birds or else 6s 8d". The Duchy has missed out on the big rent increases of the 1960s, a disaster for an organization whose



The Prince and Princess... more time to the Duchy

only business at the time was being a landlord. It had missed out, too, on 30 years of pressure on tenant farmers to modernize and become more efficient.

On taking up the reins Prince Charles recruited a team of businessmen to put the operation back on its feet, but with the proviso that no one should be upset. Ten years on, the pussy footing continues.

John Higgs, a farmer turned college bursar, turned UN agricultural expert, was the man handed the task of being Duchy managing director. Prince Charles signed up Sir John Baring, head of Barings Bank, as financial advisor, and former United States Ambassador Lord Franks as vice-chairman.

Operating under titles as ancient as some of the rents, Receiver General and Lord Warden of the Stannaries, they soon told the Prince of the problems: dozens of out-dated farms, paying out-dated rents and hundreds of houses and flats needing modernization.

"Without doubt, people over the years had seen the Duchy as a soft touch. Between 1936 and Prince Charles's coming of age in 1969, there had been no pressure at all on Duchy income", said Mr Higgs.

He administers the Duchy's day-to-day affairs, once described by Labour MP Willie Hamilton as more secretive than the KGB, from the splendour of its Buckingham Gate headquarters. He soon realized that Prince Charles meant business.

"It was clear from the start that the Duchy had to divest itself of some of its less profitable interests and diversify generally if it was to carry out parliamentary instructions to operate as efficiently as possible," said Mr Higgs. But with royal instructions to coax and not to cudgel, getting into financial shape has been a dramatically harder task than for any normal commercial firm. "We have to accept that we are different".

Different or not, the Duchy went about its business with enough resolve to turn in last year's million pound plus income for Prince Charles — and some blood has been spilled.

On the land Prince Charles found frank admission that his tenants had been on to a good thing for far too long. Cornwall tenant farmer Kenning Dacey, who runs cattle on 250 Duchy acres, says the "soft touch" charge was true. "We were enjoying low rents and that's not the case now".

Mr Dacey, chairman of his local Duchy farmers' association, said that in the days before the Prince came of age, an indifferent Treasury had hardly provided the sort of impetus needed to make the Duchy an efficient provider for itself. Luckily high farm profits during the 1970s helped to ease a fast return to economic rents. But that cosy climate could be about to end.

With farm profits now being squeezed and the Duchy still determined to match inflation with its rent rises, trouble could be on its way. The prospect of tenant farmers taking their royal landlord to independent arbitration over rents can no longer be ruled out.

But if getting to grips with agricultural rents was relatively painless, the Duchy ran into real problems over its substantial stock of houses and flats. Almost all Rent Act protected, most needing money spent to modernize them, the Duchy decided that getting out of rented property was the best course.

"It is a very sad fact that in the 1980s the ownership of Rent Act property is unprofitable", said John Higgs. But, as the case of the sleepy Somerset village of Curry Mallet, population 286, was to exemplify, getting to grips with being a 20th-century landlord has its own problems.

As the owners of three-quarters of the land in the village, the Duchy thought it would meet local housing needs and make some money for investment by building four new houses on a vacant plot. Two years,



Down on the farm... a cloth-capped Prince Charles gets to work

an independent report and a royal helicopter visit later, the village is still split down the middle over the plan and the houses are not built.

George Unwin, who moved to the village's only public house, the Bell Inn, five years ago, lays the blame for the row on the "Big People" — the well-off in the area — who raised a petition objecting to the character of the village being spoiled.

"There are only old people in this village", said 65-year-old Mr Unwin. "At least five young couples have left the area because they cannot find anywhere to live. I don't think Charles knows what's happening".

The charge that Prince Charles is out of touch is one also levelled by the housing action group, David Arnitt, says the rash of estate agents' boards have had a disastrous effect on the housing market. "Selling property in remote country districts at market rates prices out the very people you need to encourage to stay, the young and the newly married. Prince Charles as an individual is very well thought of, but the Duchy's name actually stinks with many of its tenants".

Mr Higgs says the Duchy is well aware that its disposal plans can hit local communities. "We are conscious that the homes can be bought by people who change the character of a community but the Duchy is not a housing authority". Houses and flats are up for sale too in the smallest of the Duchy estates, Kennington, whose proximity to Parliament has made Prince Charles landlord to at least 18 MPs and four peers — all keen to make sure he does not put a foot wrong.

Until three years ago a set of centuries-old restrictions laid down limits to the Duchy's ability to act as a business. But in 1982 MPs passed the Duchy of Cornwall Management Act — which allowed the Prince and his advisers to move into the 20th century proper. (Until then the Duchy could only hold bank accounts with the Bank of England, but it was suddenly freed to invest in the City.) It was also granted the right to borrow money.

"The emphasis of the 1982 Act and our commitment to parliament is now clearly to manage the affairs of the Duchy efficiently and profitably", said Mr Higgs. With his hands free, using cash from the sale of land, houses and for the first time Kennington Flats — Mr Higgs describes as "unthinkable" any suggestion that its prized possession, the Oval, would be sold — the Duchy has moved into the money market in every way. So much so that in

WHAT THEY OWN

Acreage	
Avon	8,451
Cornwall Mainland	29,837
Isles of Scilly	4,415
Devon	72,529
Dorset	3,587
Gloucestershire	1,580
Greater London	44
Somerset	7,780
Wiltshire	3,784
Glamorgan	714

Tenancies	
Kennington	600
Cornwall	40
Isles of Scilly	200
Devon	200
Somerset/Avon	300
Wiltshire/Dorset	120
Gloucestershire	50
Glamorgan	9

1983 the value of its investments was already almost £9m, £3 million more than the year before.

These mainly blue chip excursions netted Prince Charles almost £700,000 in profits against less than £600,000 from the Duchy's traditional sources, lands and rents. The rash of estate agents' boards will continue as the Duchy "spreads its load", Mr Higgs added.

Looming large above every action the Duchy takes is the Prince himself, who, despite 36 years of being in the public eye, appears to have become more and not less of an enigma. The clue could well be the Duchy itself.

Under Duchy rules he has no power to pass on to his family anything he officially owns. The royal home at Highgrove, in Gloucestershire, is owned by the Duchy and as one official put it: "If Prince Charles were to fall under a bus tomorrow, Princess Diana would get nothing".

One salient historical fact of which Prince Charles is well aware is that ten of his 23 predecessors as Dukes of Cornwall never made it to the throne. And despite the annual run of stories over his mother's possible abdication, the Queen, just turned 59, has made it clear that she sees her job as one for life.

Royal friends now see his commitment to the Duchy and its activities as confirmation that this is where he expects to spend most of his efforts over the coming years.

Thus one recent relatively unpublicized purchase has been a farm adjoining the royal home at Highgrove. Here Prince Charles plans to put into practice some of what he has been preaching — to some criticism — to his own farmers and other landowners.

He has set aside 80 acres on the 700-acre farm for an experiment on the use of organic fertilizers, a subject close to his heart. Prince Charles is now one of a growing band of farmers who believe that long-term damage is being done to the land by the increasing use of man-made fertilizers. He wants to

find out if farmers can get a good return from land where man-made nutrients are banned and traditional farming methods used.

It is now clear, say his friends, that life down on the farm suits the heir to the throne, and having discovered the Duchy to be worthwhile he is determined to give as much time as possible to it.

But whether it causes bad public relations or not, Duchy tenants should know that Prince Charles does not plan to be their landlord any longer than he needs. Almost all residential property in London or the country, where tenants move out or in will be sold off — and if anyone wants to know why, all they have to do is look at the Duchy's accounts.

After a lifetime living in a minefield, Prince Charles knows when to keep his mouth shut about anything controversial, and that includes most of the Duchy. But he must have set not a few landowners' hearts fluttering when he declared of being the 24th Duke: "The land can no longer be regarded as the sole preserve of the landowner and the farmer. The limited resources will have to be shared with more people".

Duchy staff are more than happy to say that Prince Charles is a "hands-on" chairman. The decline in his royal diary has been more than matched by the increase in his Duchy commitments, they say. And not all his tenants are out of sorts with the Duchy.

Woodworker Tony Portus moved into a Duchy converted workshop with partner Nick Stening a year ago and is one of the 200 people working in Duchy owned rural premises.

"The Duchy has been very good to us. They are very good landlords not trying to screw every penny out of us", he said. The nearness of his shop to Highgrove — his Street Farm premises are just down the road — has already helped him win one order most firms would give their eye-teeth for, a cot for Prince Harry.

The Street Farm project of five workshops is one of 40 joint ventures between the Duchy and the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas, in which Prince Charles has taken a direct interest.

Several more are being planned on Duchy property which would otherwise remain derelict. Among the major advantages for the one or at best two-man companies is a deliberate Duchy decision to ask for rents six months in arrears giving the tenants a chance to get their businesses going.

John Higgs believes the royal plan for the Duchy is more than taking shape. "We will obviously always be predominantly a land-owning company but we are more than standing on our own feet". The Prince can make sure that on the day, he, Charles, becomes King, the 25th Duke, Prince William, will at last be given something worthwhile.

"He is tremendously determined that what he hands on to Prince William is in better nick than that which he inherited", said Mr Higgs.

Secrets entrusted to a few



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Ask a manufacturer or retailer what he is aiming for and the likely answer is: to sell his products and make a profit. It is that legitimate target which is making bedfellows of health professionals and the food industry. The impetus behind the courtship stems from the food-buying habits of the public, who are heeding medical lessons on the links between diet and health and changing their shopping habits accordingly.

In the past two years, health educators have been combining their talents with those of doctors, caterers, dentists and nurses to get over the message that, for example, eating red meat and sugar, more fibre and fresh vegetables, may go some way to maintaining health and preventing illness.

Health authorities have set up food policy teams to co-ordinate their efforts to persuade the public to choose healthier food. And recent research by Dr Angela Iversen, senior registrar in community medicine at Ealing Health Authority, showed that of the 192 health districts in England, 43 had a written food health policy and 72 were formulating one.

The results of such concerted action can make a profound impression on shopping habits. Last October, Mrs Jo Richardson, district health education officer at Worcester and District Health Authority, persuaded four local stores to monitor the effects of its food education campaign. Interim results from the first six months appear to show a strong impact on sales figures.

Sales of bread, for example, increased by 25 per cent. Within that, increased sales of brown bread ranged from seven per cent to 500 per cent. And there was a near-halving of sales of lard and hard fat in two stores.

Shopping around for a healthy life



At the same time, all the stores reported increased sales of polyunsaturated cooking oils, from between 10 and 130 per cent.

The stores were in very different social areas. Overall, the greatest shift towards healthier food had been in a store serving a predominantly working-class area, arguably slower to change eating habits than more middle-class areas. Stores with a more middle-class image had already directed their customers' moves away from the butters and full-cream milks.

Yet even among these products there were appreciable shifts, despite such incentives as EEC intervention butter. When that was introduced in January, butter sales in the stores rose between 20 and 100 per cent. But sales of polyunsaturated margarine also rose, between five and 45 per cent, suggesting that the cheap butter was being stored at home for future use, while the polyunsaturates were still gaining ground.

Cadbury's, United Biscuits, Heinz, Wimpys International, Spar and Sainsbury, wanted to know where the health professions were likely to strike and to gauge how that might affect their research and development plans.

That people want more information about their food is clear, according to Tim Mason, controller of product marketing at Tesco Stores where food nutrition labelling was introduced this year ahead of government regulations. For the past three years, the company supplied, on request, any customer with computerized data on the content of all its own-brand products. It felt that more immediate information was being called for, borne out in a Gallup poll for the company and heightened by press and broadcasting interest after the publication of two national reports on nutrition and health.

Two years ago, two workshops run by the Manchester unit's director, Dr Frada Eakin, attracted nine regional health authority food policy teams. By next year, her aim is to bring together the industry, caterers, dieticians, home economists, doctors and health education officers so that each group can learn what the others are doing, point out the problems posed and suggest practical ways for each to satisfy their aspirations. Dr Eakin and her fellow organizers — Christopher Robb, a food policy planner, and Dr Sheila Adams, a specialist in community medicine — hope that what will emerge will produce a document of working use to those involved in food and health.

It could be the nearest thing to a co-ordinated food policy that Britain has, worked out in practice and serving all the interests involved. Pat Blair

THE ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1983		1982		1983	
	£		£		£
ESTATES					
Income	2,784,542			2,517,891	
Expenditure	(2,364,212)			(2,387,011)	
Profit	420,330			130,880	
Income tax	(13,585)			(17,418)	
Profit after tax	406,745			113,462	
Dividends for the year	18,217			12,128	
Investment income	182,182			182,182	
Interest and dividend	638,400			638,400	
Other income	1,184,720			1,184,720	
Less: MANAGEMENT EXPENSES					
Salaries, wages and other	(245,265)			(257,412)	
Depreciation	(42,154)			(42,428)	
Professional fees	(287,421)			(288,076)	
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR AVAILABLE	22,923			67,066	
Less: Amount transferred to non-deductible reserves	(22,923)			(67,066)	
Less: Payments made on account to the Duchy of Cornwall	(702,000)			(747,000)	
BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 1983	722,223			722,000	
Less: BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 1982	(65,126)			(225,000)	

Source: Duchy of Cornwall 1983

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 639)

ACROSS

- Interest (6)
- Workers' groups (6)
- Sleepy (4)
- Richness (8)
- Awful (8)
- Not many (3)
- Thomism founder (6,7)
- Sleep (3)
- Newspaper title (8)
- Study (8)
- Remain (4)
- Self-seeker (6)
- Trouser straps (6)

DOWN

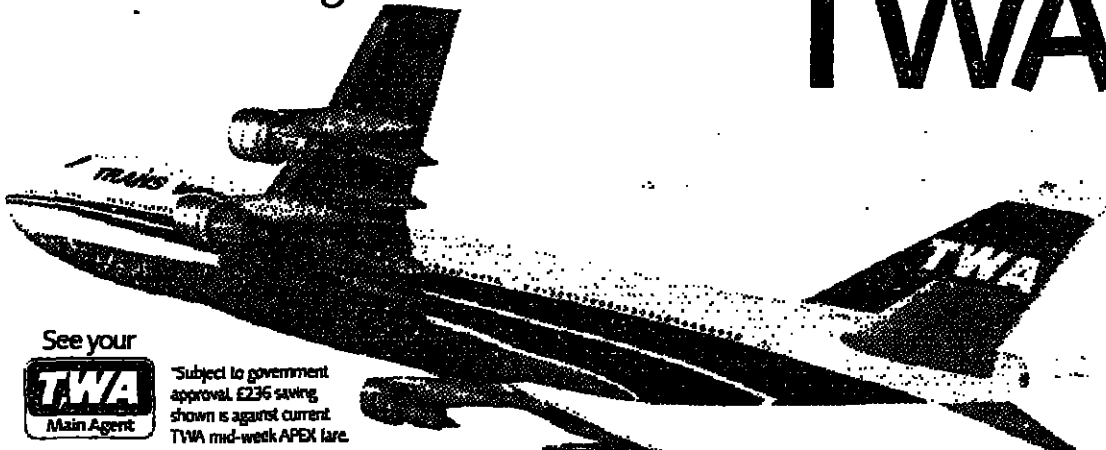
- Main part (4)
- Dangerous (9)
- Water rush (5)
- Freedom (5)
- Polytional composer (4)
- Alcove (5)
- Danger signal (5)
- Apartments (5)
- Chuckle (5)
- Wonderful (9)
- Bee-like insect (4)
- Dance sequence (4)
- Italian sparkling wine (4)
- Over (5)
- Accounts study (5)
- Nesting hawk (4)
- Pulsate (5)
- Italian sparkling wine (4)
- Over (5)
- Accounts study (5)
- Nesting hawk (4)

SOLUTION TO No 638

ACROSS: 1 Amount 5 Hack 8 Undue 9 Welcome 11 Somboro 13 Scr 15 State of the art 17 Easy 18 Coercion 21 Tankard 22 Dregs 23 Kelp 24 Namely

DOWN: 2 Madam 3 Ure 4 Tower of London 5 Hall 6 Choleia 7 Substant 10 Effortless 12 Rock 14 Char 16 Absence 19 Ideal 20 Gaup 22 Dam

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Leading the way to the USA



WEDNESDAY PAGE

In her second article, Suzanne Greaves considers the pressures and conflicts in today's classroom

The happiest days of your life?

FAMILY IN CRISIS

With the prospect of unemployment when they leave school, and violence spilling over into class, pupils and teachers are under extra strain. Parents too are demanding far more from education in the Eighties

School days are supposed to be the happiest days of your life. Today's parents hope their children will be happy in the classroom but both they and their offspring have very clear expectations of what education in 1985 is for - and that is to equip youngsters with the right qualifications for a training place or entry to university, and most of all a job.

In this year of Britain's record unemployment figures, parents believe their children will need every advantage if they are ever to work. Accordingly the pressure is upon schools to turn out children with a thorough grounding in the three Rs and with skills which their parents believe employers now demand.

Younger parents, often the products of classroom liberation when imaginative story-writing was regarded as more important than correct spelling, are shopping around for schools run by head teachers who emphasize the rules of grammar and who instill discipline. Parents now put their child's name down for a good nursery school, rather than Eton.

It was parent power that persuaded Mr Donald Naismith, Croydon's education director, to introduce this term a scheme in which children of seven and 11 will be tested in reading and maths. Parents of Croydon's 30,000 school pupils will also be given a detailed guide to the curricula to be followed in the primary and secondary schools. For the first time they will have a scientific yardstick of how their child is performing. Other authorities are anxiously watching the scheme, which will standardize classroom teaching.

Mr Paul Smith, headmaster of Springfield Lower School, Kempston, Bedfordshire, applauds the trend towards early learning skills. "We have a responsibility to the future of the children who come to this school. The children are sent here to learn and we turn out pupils who are numerate and literate. I believe in the three Rs, and if you don't teach them you are creating problems for children in the future. Even at primary school age children know all about unemployment because they see it around them."

Parents now exercise their right to view two or three schools before making a final choice. As in the independent sector, it is the mother who takes the initiative, but the ultimate choice will be made between parents and child, particularly at secondary school age. The race for the dwindling number of single-sex schools is acute. Highbury Grove boys' school in north London already has 267 applicants for 210 places in September. While local children take precedence, Mr Laurie Norcross, the headmaster, has sympathy for parents prepared to send their sons halfway across London because the Highbury Grove curriculum fits specific requirements.

If bleak job prospects have triggered new parental expectations, the reality of teaching and disciplining

children unused to authority within their own home increasingly falls to the teachers. "We are faced with a generation of children whose parents have lost control," says Mr Nigel de Gruchy, deputy general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, representing 127,000 in-service teachers in the United Kingdom. "There has been a gradual break-up of family life, and in some areas of London 30 per cent or more of pupils are from single-parent families."

He believes the problems of classroom stress experienced by teachers are revealed in the number of heads seeking early retirement, and in teachers falling sick. A survey taken last year in eight local authorities over three weeks revealed an average 10 per cent of teachers were away each day, half through illness.

Parents, too, may be hostile to teachers. "If you do anything to discipline a child then there are parents who will bust their way into the classroom and abuse the teacher", Mr de Gruchy adds.

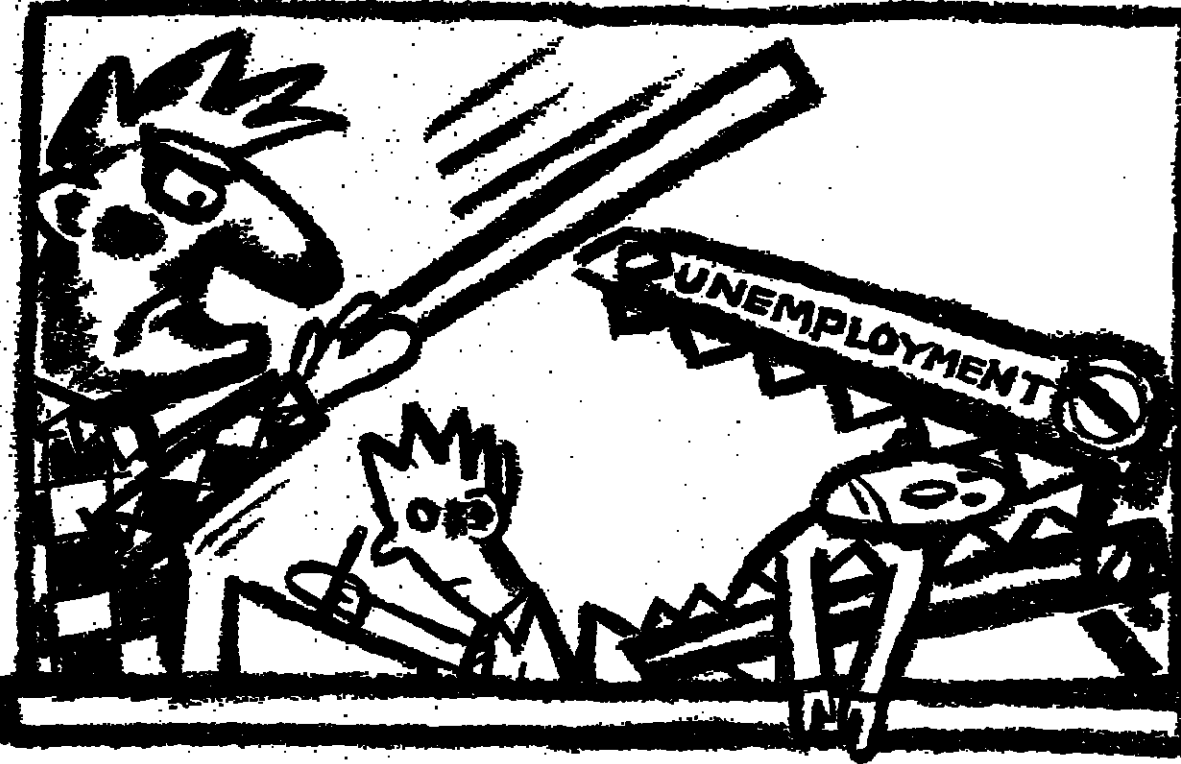
While some teachers go in fear of personal safety from abusive parents, so children dread going to school. Last year Stephen Taylor, a fourth former at Bishop Ward RC comprehensive school, Dagenham, was beaten up by boys from the Robert Clack school in the culmination of a school rivalry. In the same argument another boy had two front teeth knocked out.

The parents of a 14-year-old bully at Gloucester Grammar School were ordered by the courts to pay £100 to their son's young victim. For two years the bully had harassed him and eventually knelt the boy so hard in the groin that a testicle had to be removed.

In large schools with miles of corridors and endless hiding places, gangs of youths will wait under stairwells or hang around the school gates at home time, so there is no escape for their victim. The teacher who dares to intervene risks personal assault. In the Metropolitan Police area alone 1,122 cases of juvenile violence were reported in the first nine months of last year.

While violence is the most dramatic cause of worry in the classroom, fear of a different kind can filter down to the small child starting nursery school - a fear that adults may brush aside. "Small children beginning nursery school have been removed from the security of home to a new routine and that can be traumatic," says under-five education lecturer Mrs Sylvia Travis.

"Boys, particularly aged four and five, seem very big and tough to the young child, and these early-day worries can result in bed-wetting and a gradual withdrawal from activities. For mothers it can be a time of personal tension as she sees her child off to a new environment, and her worries may spill on to the child."



"How do you assure a small boy or girl that nursery school is a safe but exciting place? It's always best if the mother stays with her child until the first fears are removed," advises Mrs Travis. "Then gradually weans the child away by cutting down the time she stays with him."

For many mothers the knowledge that their child is safely cared for each morning may also herald a part-time job. If this happens then the child should already be used to this work routine and know the person who may look after him until mother returns home, says Mrs Travis. However, much a child enjoys school, most experience pressures which can result in the Monday morning tummy-ache. Mr Paul Smith soothes away the aches with his "magic pills" - milk of magnesia tablets - and this attention usually achieves the miracle. It can also be the key to exactly what is troubling a child.

"It's easy for a mother to fall in with her child's complaint, but I would rather she brought that pupil to school, because staying away one day can lead to long-term absence from school and develop into truancy. The child is indicating he has a problem. It's my job to help solve it."

Failing to do homework is another reason why older children skip school. A sample study of 1,200 15-year-olds by the Health Education Council showed one in two boys had not done their homework the night before the survey was taken; neither had one in three girls. Some schools, such as Highgate Grove, issue a homework journal to be signed each week by parents and class tutors.

Claire Falby, of Wokingham, Berkshire, found the atmosphere of home life heady after years away at an all-girls boarding school. Her first year in the local sixth form ended when she left school without telling her parents, breaking the news the day she found a job in a supermarket. For Claire this story ended happily. Bored with her job, she sought a secretarial course and is now running the Paris branch of a publishing company.

For Sally Dunn, of Ferndown, Bournemouth, the story did not end so happily. She was a head girl, adored by younger pupils, and each

evening went to her room clutching piles of text books for her three A-levels. When the results came out with resounding fails in all subjects, Sally confessed she had slipped out of her room most evenings to meet local boys and had done the barest amount of study. Sally left town rather than face her fellow pupils and is now working as a typist.

It is at sixth form entry-age that more parents are dipping into their pockets and paying from £3,750 a year for children to go away to school. "Parents are likely to move their children between the private and state sectors, rather than stay in one system," says Jane Capon, of the Independent Schools Information Service. "At sixth form stage it may be because a local school cannot offer particular A-level subjects."

Another reason, often revealed as a parental confession, is because the daily combination of parents and an aggressive, disruptive 16-year-old leads to continual family rows. Sending that child to boarding school can take the heat out of family life. Dr Ann Cooklin, director of the Institute of Family Therapy, regards 15 as the ideal age for boarding school and eight as "absolutely crazy". But whatever the reason for sending children away to school, the person who suffers most can be the mother.

"For a mother whose children are all away, the highlight of her life becomes the school holidays and the children arrive home to a packed programme of family activities. When the children go back she endeavours to fill her spare time - after all, she has all this freedom - but in reality, especially if she is not out at work, this mother is writing letters to her children and mentally planning towards the next lot of holidays."

For most children the first term away is difficult but by the second term they are old stagers. Not so for 13-year-old David Graham of Woodford, Cheshire, who after his first week decided he had had enough of life in a co-ed school and hitched the 80 miles back home.

"The housemaster made it most clear he found this sort of behaviour totally unacceptable," recalls Mrs Graham. "But luckily he had a

sympathetic wife and it was she who helped David settle into a boarding routine."

The clearest difference between boarding school today and in the 1950s is that parents opt for a school nearer home and listen to a child's prep school head - and their own child - before making a choice, adds Jane Capon. No longer are children sent automatically to the school their parents attended.

With more parents switching their children between different types of education, boarding schools have seen a change in their students, boosted further by the Assisted Places Scheme introduced in 1981 for children of less well-off families. In that first year some 5,000 pupils were assisted with places in private secondary schools. Aware of social change - and the threat to their very existence if a Labour government returns to power - public schools offer scholarships to pupils from primary schools.

The rights and wrongs of different education methods may be a delightful sounding board for political ideology, but for parents it is of increasingly intense concern that schools groom their children for potential employment. The family in the North-east who scrimp to send a daughter or son to a fee-paying school, or pay fares for school in another part of town, do so because they have no wish to see their child added to the region's high jobless statistics.

Even parents who send daughters to finishing schools like Winkfield in Berkshire expect their daughters to be taught cookery and flower arranging with an eye to a career. Cleaning other people's houses is not quite what parents have in mind, but clearing up and cooking for ski-chalet guests or Greek house-boat parties is quite acceptable. It's all super training for her inevitable role as working wife.

ON FRIDAY

Last of the Family in Crisis series: When teenagers turn to drugs and crime

Some decadent asparagus tips

The simplest and most decadent dish I have ever heard of is to dip asparagus soldiers into a soft boiled egg. It comes somewhere very close to bliss, especially if the eggs are really fresh like the free-range eggs from Maran hens which I bought from Neal's Yard Dairy in London's Covent Garden last week. The dairy has weekly delivery of bantam, duck and fancy hens' eggs which sell at 55p to 75p a half-dozen.

Officially the English asparagus season opened last week, but the cold weather has meant a slow start and I have not seen any in the shops yet. There has been plenty of Spanish and American asparagus already, the Spanish tasting much less bitter than it did last year.

Jumbo, Extra-selected, Selected, Choice, Kitchen and Spruce are the official gradings of English asparagus. You will not need Jumbo or Extra-Selected asparagus for any of the recipes which follow here. Serve the top grades simply steamed and dressed with melted butter.

In his book *Cuisine Minceur*, Michel Guérard gives an asparagus dish called *gâteau moelleux d'asperges*. Translating these delicate warm moulds of concentrated asparagus puree set with eggs as "soft cakes" adds nothing to their appeal, so they are best left in French. This recipe is the Guérard original, but if you have been using asparagus tips for another dish and are looking for a good way of using up the stalks, then the garnish may be omitted. The asparagus or artichoke sauces he suggests to accompany them are simple purées of the cooked vegetables combined with a little chicken stock and a tiny amount of *crème fraîche*.

Gâteau moelleux d'asperges

Serves 4

1kg (2lb 3oz) asparagus

2 whole eggs plus 1 yolk

1½ teaspoons salt

A pinch of pepper

A hint of grated nutmeg

For the garnish

12 asparagus tips

1 teaspoon tomato sauce (fresh if available)

½ teaspoon chopped parsley

4 servings asparagus or artichoke sauce

Trim the asparagus with a potato peeler, peeling away from the heads. Wash them and cook in plenty of salted water. Drain and puree them in the liquidizer. If there are any coarse fibres in the puree, sieve it.

Put the mixture in a saucepan and let it reduce by one-third of its volume over a gentle heat, stirring frequently. Take it off the heat and whisk in the two whole eggs, egg yolk, salt, pepper and nutmeg.

Brush the inside of four earthenware or glass dishes 9cm (3½in) across by 4cm (1½in) deep with butter - it will disappear during the course of cooking - and fill them with the puree.

Cook them in a bain-marie in a preheated hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for one hour. Half-way through the cooking cover the pots with a sheet of aluminium foil.

Heat the asparagus tips in hot water. Turn out the little



Shona Crawford Poole

gâteaux on to plates which have been previously warmed and coated with your chosen sauce. Decorate each with three asparagus tips arranged to look like a bunch tied together with a thread of fresh tomato sauce. Sprinkle the sauce with freshly chopped parsley.

The tastes of asparagus and sweet seafood like scallops, scampi and crab, combine pleasingly. Use any or all of them with a light sauce and baked in scallop shells or small dishes to make asparagus and seafood gratins.

Asparagus and seafood gratins

Serves 4

20 asparagus tips (stem kept for another recipe)

6 fresh scallops or 24 scampi

600ml (1 pint) fish stock or water and a splash of white wine

Salt

30g (1oz) butter

1 tablespoon flour

120ml (4fl oz) single cream

Freshly ground black pepper

2 tablespoons finely grated strong Cheddar cheese

Steam the asparagus tips until they are as cooked as you like them. Drain and dry the tips and reserve 150ml (¼ pint) of the liquid for the sauce.

Poach the scallops or scampi in the fish stock or a mixture of white wine and water, lightly salted. Drain and dry them. Leave the scampi whole, but cut the white cushion of scallops into two or three slices, leaving the coral whole. Reserve 150ml (¼ pint) of the poaching liquid for the sauce.

Divide the asparagus tips and seafood between the gratin dishes. If you have shells or shell dishes, fan the asparagus spears round the edge so that they will peep out of the sauce like the fish in a stargazy pie. Sprinkle with black pepper.

Melt the butter in a small, heavy saucepan and stir in the flour. Cook the roux for a minute or two without letting it colour then add the asparagus liquid and fish stock, a little at a time, stirring continuously to make a smooth sauce. Reduce the heat and simmer the sauce for about 20 minutes, then stir in the cream and adjust the seasoning. Pour enough sauce into each prepared dish to cover the seafood. Sprinkle with the cheese.

Bake the gratins in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the sauce is bubbling and the top beginning to brown.

Cuisine Minceur by Michel Guérard is published by Papermac at £5.95.

From wife to working woman

FIRST PERSON

Ysabel Shaw

It was six weeks before our daughter's wedding that my husband John was made redundant. The night he came home and told me, my first reaction was one of anger. After so many years of unstinting loyal service, and at the age of 59, it seemed grossly unfair. But in these days it is not an unusual situation to find oneself in and has to be accepted.

We decided to say nothing to anyone until after the wedding. All the arrangements were made and we couldn't cast a cloud on our daughter's big day. We would come to terms with it all later. So we had a few weeks in which to adjust which actually was a help.

John studied the papers daily. He was cheerful, and confident something would turn up. As a qualified chartered accountant with many years of experience, it surely wouldn't be too much of a problem.

The wedding day came and went, and gradually cracks began to appear in John's confident approach as he applied for jobs which younger, more recently qualified men got.

"Possibly," I suggested hesitantly one day, "I could get something - just to tide us over." He laughed incredulously. "Yes dear," he said, in the tone of one speaking slowly

to a handicapped child, "you go ahead!"

The condescension was hard to take but I said nothing, feeling it could be justified. As I hadn't worked since my marriage 25 years before, I said nothing more but when I saw an advertisement for a hotel receptionist, I applied.

Sitting in the hotel car park having arrived far too early for my interview, I practised yoga breathing. "Re-lax," I told myself firmly on the in-breaths. "Po-si-ive thinking," I said on the out-breaths.

I went in to the old converted mansion and saw a huge and splendid bowl of flowers on the reception desk. This threw me. Some talents I know I have. Flower arranging is not one of them.

The owner of the hotel took me in to the laundry room, the only quiet spot, for the interview. There, among the baskets, sitting on a pile of towels, I had to confess I had never worked a switchboard, used a computer or even seen an accommodation board at close quarters. He was a charming man but seemed depressed as we went through all the things I couldn't do. He sighed at the end of it, when I assured him with a confidence I was far from feeling that I was a quick learner. He said then that the main requirement was to make each guest feel they were the most important person in the hotel.

I felt this was something I could do, little knowing then the difficulties that lay ahead.

It was left that day on a "Don't ring us, we'll ring you,"

basis. I told John and realized his despondency was deep when he didn't laugh it off but discussed with enthusiasm the pittance of a salary I would get. I would have most of my meals at the hotel which would help, and the shift work would mean I could do the shopping. John agreed to be in the house but felt that wheeling a trolley round the supermarket would do nothing for his macho image.

We sat next day willing the telephone to ring. It didn't, and I envisaged all the glamour girls with experience of switchboards and computers lining up for interviews with the result that when it did ring I didn't even rush to answer and couldn't believe it when I found the job was mine. Maybe the salary wasn't enough for the glamour girls or maybe he believed me when I assured him I could

"The first week was all and more than I had dreaded"

learn. Anyway I was a working woman from the following week.

That first week in the job was all and more than I had dreaded. I woke in the night convinced I had double booked (the ultimate sin) and suddenly remembering I hadn't put someone's early tea on the board before I left at midnight.

I was on duty by myself most of the time. As well as dealing with the constantly ringing switchboard, making out bills, entering accommodation, booking dinners and private functions, giving out linen and household supplies, I also administered first aid to staff and guests and acted as agony aunt to the Italian waiters whose love lives made Mills and Boon romances look positively tame.

My vision of sitting concentrating on making the guests feel

loved and wanted soon went, although I did try. When I got home I had to make John feel loved and wanted too as he sat among a pile of rejection letters.

I had to be careful, too, not to dwell on the avocado and scampi side of my life when I got home and found him cleaning the pan in which he had burnt his baked beans.

But we also both found out a lot about each other during this time of role reversal. I found how important it is to have someone to come home to who is "on your side", to whom you can pour out all your grievances and who will agree with you that all the rest of the staff are imbeciles. He knows now that it was not sheer imagination on my part (as he insisted it was) that when the freezer door sticks, kicking the third drawer of the dresser frees it. He has also found it is impossible when running a house to finish one job before you start the next.

It seemed a long six months before he found an interesting job, but one did come along eventually. Not as high-powered as before, but in these days of stress in executive positions perhaps this was a good thing.

By then, I had adjusted to being a working wife and was enjoying it, especially when it was no longer absolutely necessary to work. I stayed on in the hotel for another year, but we found the shift work made life rather complicated, in particular at weekends, when John was working and I gave it up.

Life is unpredictable as we all know. We had been shaken out of what we both agreed had been a rather snug middle-aged executive rut and one in which we would have happily stayed. The shaking had been unpleasant at the time but we had survived and had both gained a new slant on life and a new understanding of each other. We will not fear what may come now.

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The Slinger chair is a striking contemporary design; requiring no assembly screws or fittings it simply folds out into position.

The 'Slinger' arrives folded flat but may be transformed into a comfortable chair in minutes. It consists of a white tubular steel frame coated with epoxy resin, which is covered by a fabric sling incorporating two air cushions. There is a choice of two bright quilted covers, either red with blue piping or white with red piping, filled with polyester fibre. The chair measures 27in x 27in x 27in and is made in Great Britain.

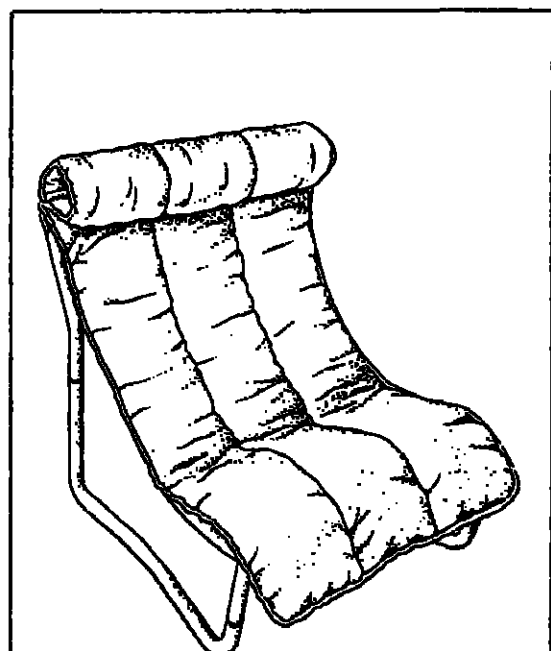
The 'Slinger' chair is ideally suited to a variety of locations - either in the lounge or bedroom or outside in the garden. Very comfortable and relaxing to sit in, its folding action allows it to be stored or carried easily when not in use.

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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES DIARY

Art hooks the prince

Last week Prince Charles had a Royal Academician, John Ward, flown out to Venice to help with his sketching. Tomorrow, I can reveal, he will have a picture displayed in a public exhibition. It is a tiny (3in x 3in) watercolour, with the unlikely title *Study of a Mackerel - first attempt*, that will hang among 450 other paintings at the annual exhibition of the Royal Society of Marine Artists at Chelsea's National Army Museum. Yesterday the prince's portrait of a fish's head was being kept under wraps pending today's exhibition preview, but the society's chairman, Brigadier Peter Hutchins, assures me it is a "very competent watercolour and that this diffidence is misplaced". Collectors will not, alas, be able to acquire an original Prince Charles. The painting is not for sale.

Peter's secret

Peter Walker is a cunning man. The cabinet's last surviving "wet" revolted last week not once, but twice. But whereas he ensured that the media knew exactly what he was going to say on unemployment in Cambridge on Thursday, not a word has leaked out so far of what he said on the Monday. The occasion was the annual dinner at St Ermin's Hotel, Westminster, of Conservative Action for Electoral Reform, and Walker spoke unequivocally in favour of proportional representation. Why the secrecy? Perhaps because the Prime Minister had not at that stage left for Bonn.

White heat

Here, for a change, is an official leak from the Commons Home Affairs Committee. It concerns the "outrageous" behaviour of a female White House security officer when the committee went to meet Reagan's narcotics adviser last week. Despite the impeccable credentials of accompanying officials, all eight MPs were brusquely asked for individual identification. Hackles rose. "Courtesy costs you nothing," remarked one MP. "Your Queen needs security," retorted the officer. "Don't compare our Queen to your tinpot president," snapped another MP - at which the committee chairman, Sir Edward Gardner, turned on his heel and led the eight away. They did finally meet the adviser - in a hotel - and hooted with laughter at his parting remark: "Don't forget - my door is always open."

BARRY FANTONI



"I'm ideally suited to be a weatherman. I was a government spokesman for unemployment."

Trigger-happy

As the end of the war in Europe is celebrated, let me reveal a claim that it actually began not on September 1, 1939, but a week before. At midnight on August 25, according to German military documents owned by a London collector, Ian Sayer, a Lieutenant Herzner led Jablonka Commando across the Polish border and seized the railway station at Mosty. He did so because Hitler's order postponing the invasion had failed to reach him, and says one of the documents, "it was due to his personal command". Anyways, the commando was able to fight its way back to the frontier. Herzner was clearly meticulous as well as committed. Another document is his expense sheet claiming \$5.86 Reichmarks for 3.5 days' foreign allowance and overnight accommodation for an "official journey... with armoured vehicle".

Disarming

Joiners went to work early yesterday morning to repair the arm of the Speaker's chair in the Commons, damaged by the fist of the Plaid Cymru MP, Dafydd Wigley, during Friday's embryo bill row. Who will pay the £50 for repairs? Wigley doesn't know if he will. "The bill hasn't arrived yet," he adds. It was not the first time the arm had been damaged. "It's hit so often it was held together by glue."

Selection box

George Wright can hardly blame the much criticized flimsiness of the ballot boxes for his defeat in the annulled election for general secretary of the Transport and General. As the T & G's Welsh secretary and chairman of the Welsh Cooperative Development and Training Centre, it was he who had the 9,000 boxes made at a Cardiff co-op. Gwase Rydd. For Monday's rerun the executive has ordered stronger boxes from another manufacturer.

PHS

Tories: no faith without hope

by George Walden

Something seismic is happening in British politics. The landscape is still intact, though the local elections opened predictable cracks on the surface. Far more significant are the deeper tremors among Conservative supporters themselves, where the will for change is losing momentum. The party thus faces the same twin challenge after last week as it did before: not just to win the next election, but to keep alive a spirit of national reconstruction in a climate of political fatigue.

Debate on the back benches has become a running dialogue with our own supporters. It is not only that the economic upswing is slow coming - the signs are good, and many of the factors for delay are not in the Government's control. Nor is it just that unemployment has begun to nag so insistently at the party's conscience. It is simply that we are failing to project any vision of future harmony, only the bleak prospect of endless struggle and strife. Politics must surely rest on hope, without which faith will dwindle. To the inevitable question - Is the policy working? - is sometimes added another: What is it all for?

There are excellent answers. Lasting social harmony can only be based on real prosperity. And for those who ask "How long will it take to lay the foundations for recovery?" there can only be one honest reply: almost as long as it took to erode them. The "consensus now" approach, whereby the Government would buy a synthetic respite by old-fashioned economic policies, could unscramble many of our major problems, especially on inflation. That road leads back to an impoverished provincialism at best.

and to a brotherhood of ragged-trousered philanthropy if the "consensus" is Labour-led.

The logic is telling, though nobody likes being crushed by logic. There is real disquiet, even in well-to-do areas, about the growing gap between those in work and out, and North/South divisions have become a fearful cliché only because they are a fearsome reality. No Conservative likes the idea of the nation being pulled apart, either socially or geographically, vertically or horizontally.

There may not be a mood for consensus, but there is for concord. Conservatives must be seen to be ready to work with, or at least listen to, patriotic pragmatists, whoever they are. If we can do business with Gorbachev, we can talk to the post-Scargill TUC.

The Government's handling of the wages councils must take account of these wider dimensions. The undoubted merits of abolition will have to be measured, not only against the risk of exposing the weakest and lowest-paid, but against that of giving the TUC a new excuse for confrontation. Reform is a better option.

On unemployment, the reflex from the constituencies is still, "Why doesn't the Government do something?" In fact there has been a torrent of activity, which somehow passes unnoticed. Recently three White Papers were published in three weeks charting the most serious attempt for decades to deal with the interlocking areas of

education, training and employment. But perhaps because the Government has got its head so firmly down, they failed to coalesce into a strategy - at least in the public's perception.

Most of these measures are frankly and rightly long-term, and often non-political.

Even some of our own supporters are still unused to an administration which gives priority to the future welfare of the country over short-term expediency. No doubt the party will get as much credit for tackling the inefficiencies of the social security system as it is for rationalizing the Health Service.

The only way to continue these reforms is to win the next election. Yet to some Conservatives, incessant reforms can seem like permanent revolution.

Except on unemployment, from all quarters there is a growing demand for inaction. When we press the advantages of "an American enterprise culture", the implicit response is often that we are not Americans; brash commercialism is not our style. Anyway (the argument goes) there are other things in life besides money, such as hip-joint operations on the NHS, more for the environment, more for local services, for education, the arts, the needy, the elderly... Here we are at the heart of the problem: the new mood of "quiet-lifeism" is accompanied by relentless demands for "more resources" - the established euphemism for straight cash.

Then there are the lobbyists. Opening an MP's mail is like plunging into a pool of professional piranhas. How can we avoid being nibbled to death when everyone insists either on the status quo, or still more of the same? The easiest answer is to go along with everything, and trust in the Chancellor to make it all add up. But there are good reasons why he can't, and it must be said to say so. One is that our economic position is still precarious, and we should say that too. Honesty alone may not be a policy, but it must still be the basis of our approach.

Most Tory MPs still think that the Government's fundamental economic strategy is right. Advancing in waves makes sense, provided that the biggest waves are after each election, not before. But this is a time for priorities. The first must be to consolidate past achievements and to maximize their immediate job-creating potential as far as financial sanity allows. There is already plenty of radicalism in the pipeline. Some of the next steps may have to await the next Parliament. If we can't steel ourselves to tax today's pension funds to help today's Budget, we should give ourselves more time to think about the Budget of the 2020s.

The country seems caught in a mood of indecision, poised between effort and inertia. Indecisive moods need careful handling. As a philosopher once observed, the difference between leading the people and being pursued by them can be disconcertingly slight.

The author is Conservative MP for Buckingham.

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Ghosts return to haunt a nation

Buenos Aires

A hush fell over the courtroom as the judge leaned forward to ask, "Is there anything else the witness wishes to add?"

For just a moment, the veneer of the dry judicial proceedings cracked to reveal a glimpse of the emotion and drama that lie behind an extraordinary public trial taking place in Argentina.

"I just want to know whether my daughter is alive or dead," the elderly woman in the witness stand, Señora Maria Markoff de Lettortoff, blurted out after a single sob. She had just told the six-member tribunal how in early 1977 one of the paramilitary groups that terrified Argentina in those years burst into her home at 1am and took away her daughter - whom she has not seen since. Two hours later, the same group returned to take her away as well. She described in vivid detail the secret prison run by the Buenos Aires provincial police, where she was held for a week.

In a firm voice that hid her feelings she told the court of hearing her daughter's cries of pain when she was being tortured in a nearby cell. She also described all of her fruitless efforts to get the military authorities to release her daughter, or at least to admit she was being held.

Even Judge Guillermo Ledesma, a model of sobriety and discipline in the trial, seemed to have a lump in his throat as he replied to her final plea. "Unfortunately, this court cannot give you an answer," he said.

The mother's testimony, dramatic as it was, was not the most shocking yet heard in this unprecedented trial. She is only one of nearly 1,900 victims of the military's repression who are expected to appear as witnesses against nine of Argentina's former military rulers.

On instructions from the civilian president, Raul Alfonsín, three former military presidents and their navy and air force commanders - nine men in all - are being tried on charges of orchestrating the secret



In search of "the disappeared ones": a protest rally by relatives in Buenos Aires in 1983

kidnapping, torture and execution of thousands of suspected dissidents during 1976-82.

President Alfonsín, in a bold move four days after he took office in December 1983, ordered the court martial of the nine, accusing them of mass murder, kidnapping and torture. The public hearings began after a civilian court took over from a military supreme tribunal last October, ruling that it had dragged its feet in prosecuting its former comrades-in-arms.

The federal prosecutor, Julio Strassera, has vowed he will obtain a conviction on the strength of evidence he has collected in more than 700 cases of "disappearances".

Over 100 witnesses have already been called since the hearings opened two weeks ago, and their testimony has forced Argentina to relive the nightmare of terror and violence the country went through in the 1970s, first at the hands of left-wing guerrillas, then through the military's secret death squads. It was soon after the Argentine armed forces seized power in the coup of 1976 that overthrew Isabel Peron that reports of mysterious "disappearances" and of secret torture camps began to filter out. A presidential investigating commission found last year that the military's "hellish system of state terrorism" was responsible for the

disappearance and presumed death of at least 8,960 people.

The ghosts of the *desaparecidos* haunt the court proceedings, especially during the testimony of witnesses like Señora de Lettortoff. Among the witnesses has been a British-born journalist, Robert Cox, who told of his desperate efforts to halt the killings as editor of the tiny English-language *Buenos Aires Herald*, the only newspaper that dared to criticize the regime. On his first appearance in court, he was overwhelmed by his memories and had to suspend his testimony. "It was like a horror movie playing inside my skull," he said. "I keep seeing the same images over and over again."

This multi-faceted trial is, in the words of the prosecutor, a watershed that will divide Argentina's past from its future. Never before, in more than 50 years of political instability in Argentina, have military officers who staged a coup been put on trial for their actions. "Before, they used to give and take the government away from us at will," the prosecutor said last week. "Now the rules of the game have changed. Society must learn what happened, accept it, and condemn it."

The trial is also of crucial political importance to President Alfonsín. He must show that he has seen justice done by convicting at least the leaders of the "dirty war". If the officers should get off with only light punishment, Alfonsín would face a backlash.

The president is under intense pressure, however, from the military and right-wing groups who still believe their "dirty war" was justified.

Alfonsín has a strategy which he hopes will allow him to satisfy both sides. Those officers who gave the orders would be tried for their overall responsibility. Others who had committed crimes such as torture and murder would be tried case by case. Officers and soldiers who simply followed orders would not be tried at all.

The prosecutor has vowed to send the junta members away "for a long, long time". That could happen near the end of the year. If Alfonsín's strategy proves correct, the national catharsis provided by the trial will make most Argentines want to put the sequels of the "dirty war" behind them. If not, the end of the trial that has been called "the Argentine Nuremberg" will be only the beginning of an even more bitter legal battle: to distinguish between those lower-ranking officers who followed legitimate orders and those who acted on their own.

Douglas Tweedale

Votes Labour cannot afford to lose

Yesterday's announcement by the print union Sogat of a 3-1 ballot majority allowing the union to continue to have a political fund and to pay money to the Labour Party was given a champagne reception.

But a long summer of union ballots stretches ahead before the party can also celebrate the certainty of enough union funds to keep it in business.

The party receives more than £5million a year out of the £9million that trade unions spend on political matters. As that accounts for no less than 80 per cent of the party's revenue, it is no wonder that an enormous campaign has been mounted to ensure that the 58 unions with political funds win the ballot vote to retain them.

Last year's Trades Union Act required unions to hold a confirmatory ballot before next March if they want to keep their political funds - and further ballots every 10 years. The fact that only 40 per cent of union members voted Labour at the last general election does not augur well for yes votes, but the unions are at pains to emphasize that the ballot is not about affiliation to the Labour Party.

The campaign has been launched in a state of near-paranoia over possible media "interference" in the ballot. The young, timorous for as long as possible and the job of persuading union members to vote "yes" is being done quietly at the grass roots.

The ballot-rigging controversy in the TGWU has been a deep embarrassment for union leaders seeking to win their political-fund ballots, in some cases against severe odds. Concern about the impact of what some saw as the murkier side of trade-union elections was one factor that led to the intervention by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader,

which helped persuade the union executive to order a re-run of the ballot for general secretary to succeed Moss Evans.

The campaign to secure "yes" votes in the political-fund ballots is now in top gear. In addition to a £150,000 publicity campaign by the unions, Roy Hattersley, the deputy party leader, is doing a whistle-stop tour of union conferences at the seaside resorts, spreading the gospel that Labour is the party that will protect public services and create jobs. He is also using the conference circuit to propagate a new deal between the unions and a Labour government.

Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, is also doing the conference rounds with much the same message, taking advantage of 20 conference invitations from unions anxious to welcome him into the job he took over from Lord (Len) Murray. Mr Kinnock will appear from time to time to reinforce the argument that Labour needs strong ties with the unions.

But will the message get through, and be translated by membership votes into continued financial support for the party? With the improving fortunes and public image of the party, some union officials are now less hesitant in reminding their members of the

necessity to sustain it. There is greater optimism than a year ago that most political funds will emerge unscathed.

Early private polling by the unions suggested that few were certain of being able to win the votes. The engineers and electricians were thought to be odds-on favourites, and the miners were regarded as a safe bet. The intended strategy was that they would vote first and show the way.

But the strategy ran into trouble, not only because of the strike but also after the Trade Union Coordinating Committee found that individual unions were reluctant to have the timing of their ballots dictated by a overall plan. They argued, successfully, that they knew their members best and would choose the best time.

Sogat was the first to vote, largely because Bill Keys, its general secretary until last month, heads the co-ordinating committee. The steelworkers, balloting at the moment, are by no means sure to vote yes, even though they are traditionally stalwart Labour supporters. Unions that will ballot over the next couple of months include the engineering workers, electricians, Telecom engineers and building workers, followed later in the summer by the General and Municipal and TGWU.

Top-10 unions with political funds

	Membership	Levy-payers	To Labour Party
TGWU	1,547,443	1,517,782	£225,000
Engineers	1,005,087	570,000	£480,000
General & Municipal	875,000	755,858	£325,000
Public Employees	689,048	670,736	£300,000
Shopworkers	403,448	389,547	£192,500
ASTMS	410,000	n/a	£25,000
Electricians	365,000	295,234	£20,000
Building Workers	259,873	171,000	£25,500
Health Service Employees	222,869	203,730	£100,000
White-collar engineers	215,052	113,000	£58,500

1983 figures

Where have all the demons gone?

Peter Kellner

I bring good news. The demons on Labour's left have been vanquished. I bring even better news. On close examination most of them turn out not to be demons at all.

Four years ago, as Tony Benn's campaign for Labour's deputy leadership gathered momentum, it was almost impossible to open a newspaper without reading of fresh left-wing juncos. The moment when the left came closest to tasting victory was 8.20 pm on Sunday, September 27, 1981. Clive Jenkins spread the word that Benn had narrowly defeated Denis Healey.

Fortunately, Jenkins was wrong. The first count had put Benn narrowly ahead, but a check on the figures showed Healey had won. Since that evening, the left has lost almost every battle it has fought.

Within 48 hours, it lost its majority on Labour's national executive, where a soft-left/centre-right coalition has wielded power ever since. In 1983, after Michael Foot and Healey stood down, the left's candidates for leader and deputy leader were humiliated. Most significantly of all, Roy Hattersley defeated Michael Meacher not only among MPs and trade unions, but also among constituency parties.

Militant has found itself increasingly isolated; it has lost members and failed to have any noticeable impact on the current round of selection of parliamentary candidates. A new editor of *Tribune* has distanced the paper from Benn and the diminishing breed of Bennites. The Labour Co-ordinating Committee pressure group has also been broken away, as has Meacher. Benn himself has found it impossible to get elected to the shadow cabinet.

Last winter two great hopes sustained the remnants of the Bennite left. One was that the miners would demonstrate how to fight the Government, and discredit the Labour leadership as faint-hearted and pusillanimous. The second was that rate-capped Labour councils would defeat Patrick Jenkin - and discredit the Labour leadership as pusillanimous and faint-hearted.

Since early March both ambitions have collapsed in a remarkable way. When the miners' strike ended, widespread predictions were offered that the Labour Party would be split over whether or not Neil Kinnock had betrayed the union. It never happened: Arthur Scargill could not blame Kinnock for the miners' defeat for the simple reason that the miners had not, in his view, been defeated.

The rate-cap saga has developed even more strangely, ever since the retreats two months ago of the Inner London Education Authority and the Greater London Council. Instead of sheepishly defending their roles in the events that led up to setting a rate, Frances Morrell (ILEA's leader) and Ken Livingstone have both seized the opportunity to attack the illusions of their former allies on the extreme left.

Livingstone's report on the GLC fiasco to Labour's London regional executive is especially revealing.

moreover... Miles Kington

VE has ways of making you talk

Well, where were you on VE Day? Some of our older readers have penned their memories specially for this column. Brigadier Hector Sassoon. I remember VE day very well. I was writing my war memoirs at the time, the idea being that the first senior officer out with a book about the war would make a fortune. So there was me, beavering away on a chapter about me and Rommel, when there was a fearful racket outside the window. I looked out, and there were hundreds of people dancing in the street, eating from urtic tables, sounding horns - oh, you can't imagine. It was ghastly.

"Have you all gone mad?" I shouted down.

"It's the end of the war," they shouted back.

"Well, go and end the bloody thing somewhere else," I told them, and slammed the window. Funny enough, what with one thing and another, I never did finish my book and I never published anything about the last war. Until today.

Captain Alan Turkey RN. Forty years ago it may be, but to me it's as clear as yesterday evening. I was in command of a small frigate, the old "Inconclusive", and we were sailing up the Med to help handle a spot of the Greek Cypriot. Anyway, the radio both wings of the Labour movement are "thinking the impossible" and looking to a future that could see the party's funds seriously depleted. Ways of continuing to channel funds to the party are being investigated. There is even muted talk about the possibility of the Walworth Road headquarters in south London having to close and a new form of national organization evolving based on the leader's office in the Commons.

That prospect is too awful for most to consider. They hope that no more than about 15 of the 58 unions with political funds will lose their votes. Party managers will not be too concerned if these are small contributors.

One union to watch is Terry Duffy's AUEW. Fewer than 60 per cent of the engineers are paying the levy but because the union has a million members it pays about £460,000 a year into party coffers. If the engineers, who start voting toward the end of the month, reject the political fund, the outlook for many other unions, and still more for Labour Party finances and organization, will be bleak indeed.

David Felton

Labour Correspondent

"Had we risked our fragile unity by thinking things through," he wrote, "we would have been more likely to adopt a deficit budget strategy" - instead of pursuing a policy of defiance that could not be sustained; and: "A party that seeks to transform society needs to start by being honest with itself... Any fool can lead an army to defeat. Real leadership requires that you recognize when a battle has been lost and withdraw in a way which minimizes your casualties."

Finally, Livingstone asserted: "We need to break away from the simplistic attitude that Labour's failures and defeats are because leaders always betray."

In truth the demology that saw a tightly knit conspiracy embracing Benn, Livingstone, Scargill and at times other poisons of the month, never addressed what was happening in the Labour Party. Demos must possess three qualities if their threats are to have any force: serious political goals, a willingness to embarrass the party's leadership, and adequate power to sustain their challenge. Labour's "demons" have always lacked at least one of these.

The only unifying factor among the supporters of Benn in 1981 and Scargill in 1984 was their willingness to divide the party. Many of their supporters (in Militant, for example) have not even been serious. That is, they have been earnestly organizing to achieve their tawdry goals within the Labour Party, but they have never been serious about improving the prospects of school-leavers or council tenants or black people in the inner cities.

What has happened is that the serious left - that section of the party's left wing that passionately wants a Labour government after the next election - has rejected the frivolity of its erstwhile allies on the extreme left. One of the first to make the break was Neil Kinnock, when he refused to vote for Benn in 1981.

A more recent scalp for the realists is Sheffield's David Blunkett. He said in an interview for *Marxism Today* in March, "Gesturing, individual go-it-alone charisma politics, the salvation of the political credibility of individuals is more important than the end goal: these things won't, wash any more."

Much the same could be said by many others on what is now being described as the "new left": from Livingstone at the GLC to left-wing miners who believe Scargill mis-handled the coal strike.

At long last we are seeing the gradual emergence of a new, still loose coalition of Labour politicians. They range from Roy Hattersley and Gerald Kaufman to Robin Cook and David Blunkett. They are serious about changing society and realistic about how to do so. If they succeed in forming an effective common front, it will be one of the most significant advances for Labour in years.

As I said, I bring good news. The author is political editor of the New Statesman.

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that they had lost the war. They didn't believe me until May 17. So my memories of VE Day are of England losing the war, and I'd rather not talk about it. I shall be celebrating on May 17.

Sergeant Oscar Rafferty. People tend to forget that some of us enjoyed the war a lot. The camaraderie, the travel, the excitement, not to mention the perks. Our little lot had been having a pretty good war. I can tell you, so when news of VE Day came through, it was total gloom. I can remember "Spud" Pentland, my lance-corporal, saying: "It'll never be the same again," and it hasn't. I spent the next 40 years as a clerical officer with the Water Board, and can't remember a single thing about my years there. I can see that winning the war was generally a good thing. I just wish it had gone on a lot longer.

Sir Harry Fortingall. I spent VE Day in a pub near the BBC in the company of Dylan Thomas, Cyril Connolly, Rene Cutforth, Malcolm Muggeridge, Julian Maclaren-Ross, John Betjeman, Ernest Hemingway, the Fitzgeralds, a friend of W.H. Auden's, four or five poets called Priestley and young poet called "Spud" Pentland. This wasn't odd as I had spent almost every day of the war in the same pub with most of those people.

Anyway, I am not ashamed to say that we got just the slightest bit pissed, as indeed we had on most days during the war, and I remember turning to Dylan Thomas and saying: "What are you going to do after the war, then, Dylan?"

"Well, Harry," he said, "I am thinking very seriously of sobering up."

At which he fell under the table, so I turned to the next man along and said, "What are you going to do after the war, Spud?"

"Nothing," he said. "I'm knackered already."

I often wonder what happened to him. "Spud" Pentland. So that's what I was doing on VE Day. I'd often wondered. Since then I've done a bit of this and that, export and import, you name it. For a while I was head of M15, then top chef at the Ritz, and then I bought a small tobacco-nix in Penze. At the same time, I also bought 300 other small tobacco-nixes and down the country, so I am now what I suppose you would call a millionaire. It's been fun. But I still honestly can't remember where I was on VE Day.

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UNFINISHED VICTORY

Only a fool or an ideologue would attempt to define "the meaning of VE day", 40 years on. There are as many personal meanings as there are memories, and at least as many collective meanings as there are nations. Former wartime allies may still just be able to agree on a rough definition of what we were fighting against - say "Nazism" or "fascism" - although the banner on Nelson's column in May 1945 proclaimed "Victory over Germany", and victory over Germany was as much the leitmotif in Red Square. But we can more easily agree with our former German enemies than with our former Soviet allies on the definition of what we were fighting for.

Of course the alliance with the Soviet Union was a strategic necessity. The Red Army played the largest part in defeating Nazi Germany in Europe. No ideological differences can be allowed to obscure this plain historical truth. Moreover, as Churchill famously remarked, if the Nazis had invaded hell he would have felt obliged to put in a good word for the devil. Yet with hindsight we can see that one of the Western allies' greatest mistakes was to pretend to the world, and to themselves, that the Soviet Union was also fighting for a liberal world order: that we and they meant the same thing by words like "democracy", "freedom" and "self-determination".

This pretence and self-deception, is one of the main reasons only half of Europe can truly celebrate a lasting Victory-in-Europe on Wednesday. For the other half, victory in war brought bitter defeats in peace. But we in the West have also paid a price. To this day, we have to defend Western Europe, at great economic and political expense, not only against our former ally, but also against those in our own societies who still harbour some of those illusions about the Soviet Union which our governments actively fostered during the War.

The lesson of this historic mistake for today's defenders of the free world is: do not pretend. Do not pretend that the enemy of our enemy is automatically our friend. Do not pretend to yourselves and do not pretend to public opinion. Of course there will be times when we have to ally ourselves with forces which do not share our liberal and democratic values in the larger cause of peace and freedom. The alliance with Stalin's Russia in the just war against Hitler's Germany was the classic example in our times.

Support for Communist China, or Baathist Iraq, for authoritarian governments in various countries or for the Contras in Nicaragua may arguably be such cases today. But let us not try to pretend that, because these forces are ranged against some of the things we are against, they must be for all the things we are for. Let us not, for heaven's sake, go round describing the Contras as "the moral equal of our founding fathers" (as President Reagan is reported to have done). This is as wrong as it is to equate Waffen-SS men with the victims of the concentration camps. By speaking like this you devalue the very currency you are trying to defend: the currency of freedom.

What is more, by speaking like this you run the risk of obscuring the unique quality of the Western alliance. For unlike most

previous alliances in history, including the wartime alliance with the Soviet Union, today's Western Alliance really is based on a common understanding of what we are for as well as of what we are against. Our shared foreign policy reflects certain shared domestic values. The participants in the Bonn summit rightly reiterated these values in their "political declaration on the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War". In politics we already have a common currency - and it is the strongest in the world. The peoples of unfree countries all over the world look towards the capitalist democracies with envy, hope and yearning. Wherever they can they vote with their feet.

Yet here we have Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition and the most likely alternative Prime Minister, writing about what he calls the anniversary of the conquest of fascism by suggesting that today's political leadership in Britain and America is shifting towards the fascist attitudes of the 1930s. He has said that 1945 represented "the triumph over a system which systematically set out to break the human spirit and turn the state into a vehicle of brutal oppression by means of the most brutal violence, the most organized lying and the most deliberate breeding of suspicion and fear within and among nations".

That we have not conquered at all. Such a system exists. It is writ large. It is the Soviet Union which expands from behind the barrier it has built across Central Europe, and to which Mr Kinnock and Mr Healey can be seen to go toadying in search of political capital at home, as did Mr Healey yesterday when he popped off once more to Moscow having delivered his now customary and unchallenged diatribe against every aspect of President Reagan's policies, throwing in the economic summit for good measure, all by courtesy of the BBC.

The sad - no, not sad but contemptible - point about Mr Healey is that he is old enough to know better, since his Balliol baptism into Communism before the war did not seem to last very long after it. In the late 1940s and 1950s Mr Healey was one of the most vigorous critics of Communism within the Labour party. The spoon with which he now supps with the Soviet leadership seems to have been discarded in favour of a grubby finger now.

But most of the rest of the contemporary Labour leadership is too young to know. Its spiritual home is no longer in the party of Attlee and Bevin who knew how to fight to save their party from a hard left whose Communist background had taught it that the road to power in Britain lies through penetration of the Labour party. The spiritual home of Mr Kinnock and his inner coterie lies within Euro-Communism. But their protestations against this Government and its policies completely ignore that fascism has not been defeated in Europe and is now as much - perhaps more - a phenomenon of the Left as it is of the fringe Right, which only exists in France and Spain as a political entity, and inhabits the lunatic fringe of Italy and Great Britain.

The new Left fascists managed largely to escape this label

because they continued to hide behind the arid irrelevancies of Karl Marx, but it is the fascist Left which shouts down speakers at universities, which infiltrated miners' picket lines, which harasses Jewish organizations, which joins forces wherever it can with the IRA, Libyan terrorists and the PLO, not just to get at their money, but because it thrives on the carnage of a political culture built of violence. That was most vividly expressed by the expressions of regret recorded in *London Labour Briefing* that Mrs Thatcher had escaped the Brighton bomb. Mr Livingstone has been associated with that magazine yet neither he nor any other senior Labour figure seemed to be prepared to repudiate those sentiments, just as Mr Kinnock's repudiation of violence on the miners' picket lines had to be hand-drawn, rhetorically, for the violence of unemployment. No doubt in order to prevent such an unqualified condemnation of violence *en masse* escaping into the freedom of speech one would expect from a man whose individual decency is undeniable. So let us, indeed, not pretend that in 1945 Soviet tyranny and the efforts of western democracies finally conquered fascism since the former have run off with the jackboots.

Yet at the same time the Western alliance faces doubts and questioning from its own peoples, particularly in Western Europe. Such doubts are certainly fuelled by a too facile endorsement of the enemy of our enemy as our friend - that is, of every anti-communist as a liberal democrat. But they also result, more importantly, from the very success of this alliance. After 40 years of peace, many young people in Western Europe no longer seriously believe in any threat from the East. The threat from American nuclear weapons seems to them just as real - or unreal - as that from Soviet nuclear weapons. The American presence in Western Europe seems to them as much an "occupation" as the Soviet presence in Eastern Europe. What is more, many of them are simply bored with this dreary, conventional "two-bloc world" - an over-armed, immobile, paunchy 40-year-old. They look for change. They want their own cause to fight for.

This is one reason the Bonn summiters were very well advised to include in their declaration a commitment to work towards overcoming the division of Europe. Concentrating our thoughts on this goal serves a double purpose. On the one hand, it offers a direction, a cause, and a sense of movement in a Europe where these are widely felt to be lacking. Here is a cause in which the genuine idealism of many supporters of the peace movement could be fruitfully engaged. On the other hand, it brings everyone firmly up against the realities of that Soviet imperial power which replaced Nazi imperialism in Eastern Europe 40 years ago. This is conducive to necessary realism. For we must recognize that it may be another 40 years, or even two times 40, before Eastern Europe achieves the freedoms we already enjoy, and the true promise of Victory-in-Europe Day is at last fulfilled.

From Mr Anthony Eytan
Sir, "What more do we want?" rightly asks Mr John McLean in his letter of May 2 concerning Mr Palumbo's Mansion House scheme. Possibly the continuance of the existing congestion of buildings and another of London's lost opportunities?

Sir Christopher Wren, with his noble idea of organising the City of London in a spacious and melodious way, was baulked by commercial interests. Miraculously now these same interests have enlightened Mr Palumbo, who has an idea conservationists cannot accept. We have the prospect of a beautiful and exciting piazza with a fine building designed to it, a chance to pause, and look, time to look at people in that space.

There seems to be an unholy alliance of hysteria and timidity over anything new in the way of architecture. Emotive words are used in this very case, to bring disrespect, cloud the issue, and dilute the principles. Quality in architecture causes a job. Miss von der Rohe in pure form is very different from the pseudo essays in that style we are used to. Strangely, it is commerce that recognizes a masterpiece and calls the aesthetic fund. Sir Christopher, you have found an ally at last!

Yours faithfully
ANTHONY EYTAN
166 Brixton Road, SW9.
May 4.

Bridging culture gap

From the Headmaster of Whitgift School
Sir, As head of a secondary school no less than as a teacher of classics, I welcome Mr Corkill's view (April 27) that humane and technical education need to be integrated in the curriculum of our young people within a single culture.

A vocational emphasis may or may not enhance the individual's sense of belonging to a community, but schools certainly can and should use technology and other media for problem-solving to encourage the resourcefulness which the ancient Greeks and Romans so much admired and Britain evidently needs today.

Yet ingenuity and information must be allied to the love of wisdom, which the Greek spirit also exemplifies, if mankind is not to fall into tragic error and to overreach itself. Hence the further necessity for the continued study of non-utilitarian subjects in the field of humanities.

It is good to hear a voice from industry proclaiming the relevance of ancient culture to the modern world, and abandon the classics it will be at our peril.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID RAE BURN (President,
Joint Association of Classical Teachers)
Whitgift School,
Haling Park,
South Croydon.
April 29.

Voluntary grants

From Mr John Maples, MP for Lewisham West (Conservative)
Sir, You published (April 23) a letter from the Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations expressing serious doubts about the funding of voluntary groups after the abolition of the GLC and metropolitan county councils.

The picture is by no means as gloomy as Mr Griffiths paints it. To that extent the misleading and slightly ludicrous advertising of the GLC, which seems to equate the end of the GLC with the collapse of voluntary activity, is indeed relevant because of the uncertainty it creates for voluntary groups.

Responsibility for funding voluntary bodies will pass entirely to boroughs and districts. It is nonsense to claim that these authorities

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Euston Arch to Mansion House

From Mr Gavin Stamp
Sir, In 1961 your then architecture correspondent, now Sir James Richards, was in the thick of the fight to save the Euston Arch from its wicked and unnecessary demolition. As he records in his autobiography, he failed to enlist the support of *The Times* and a leading article, entitled "Not worth saving", recommended ignoring the public campaign in the arch's favour and destroying it.

Today (May 6), following the publication of admirable articles by your present Architecture Correspondent, Mr Charles Kaevit, which forcefully present the case against replacing a large piece of the centre of the City of London by an open space and a large glass tower designed by the late Miss von der Rohe, you have chosen to publish a contradictory leader, entitled "Plumping for Palumbo".

This present leading article employs subjective arguments about the necessity of change similar to those which were used to condemn the Euston Arch. The issues are indeed similar, for the arch was sacrificed to precisely the type of ruthless and mechanistic modernist thinking as informed Mr Palumbo's scheme when it was evolved two decades ago. The Mansion House Square proposals reflect an approach to architecture and to urban renewal which has provoked widespread criticism and popular opposition; this is why the objectors insist that the scheme is dangerously out of date.

It is reassuring to find that in your bicentenary year the "Thunderer" has learnt nothing, and forgotten nothing.

Yours etc,
GAVIN STAMP,
1 Saint Chad's Street,
Argyle Square,
King's Cross, WC1.
May 6.

From Mr Anthony Eytan
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Yours faithfully
ANTHONY EYTAN
166 Brixton Road, SW9.
May 4.

Lessons of decline in merchant fleet

From the General Secretary of the Shipbuilding and Allied Industries Management Association

Sir, Your report (May 2) that the Defence White Paper goes further than previous Government statements in expressing concern about the decline of the British merchant shipping fleet draws attention to one of the most critical strategic issues faced by this country in the 1980s.

As an island nation committed to a coordinated defence policy we are, without doubt, facing the prospect of significant deficiencies in our defence capacity.

It is vital that the Government revises its current policies towards both shipping and shipbuilding in order that the continuing decline in the merchant fleet can be arrested and sufficient shipbuilding capacity is retained. Only then can the fleet be modernised and renewed without having to rely on overseas sources.

In a joint report compiled by this association and the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association, submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer earlier this year, we made a number of specific proposals designed to reverse the decline of the merchant fleet and provide fiscal assistance to shipbuilding, which would encourage British shipowners to place orders in British yards.

In particular, we asked the Treasury to review the home credit scheme and examine the other financial inducements which are available to our foreign competitors. We have also continuously pressed the Government to act on the 1982 trade and industry select committee's recommendation that the UK should develop a maritime policy covering both shipping and shipbuilding.

To date there has been no constructive response to those proposals and the British shipping and shipbuilding industries continue to decline. The effect of this decline on our defence capability is potentially disastrous.

If we are unable to quickly transport troops and equipment to the European mainland, or any other area of potential conflict, or provide adequate merchant support to the Royal Navy, then the entire Navy defence policy becomes unworkable.

It has been estimated recently that if the Falkland War were to happen today, we would not be able to provide the required merchant shipping from the British fleet. This is borne out by the fact that the Ministry of Defence has felt obliged to charter foreign vessels for use in the South Atlantic.

We hope that the Government will now take notice of the many organisations and individuals who

have been warning them of the consequences which will inevitably arise from the current policy of neglect.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN W. ASKEW, General Secretary,
Shipbuilding and Allied Industries Management Association,
Station House,
Fox Lane North,
Chertsey,
Surrey,
May 2.

From Mr George J. Bonwick

Sir, Sir Edward du Cann, MP, gave a misleading figure when commenting on the size of the UK-registered merchant fleet in his letter (May 3). The number of ships he gave, viz. 686, applies only to vessels of over 500 gross registered tons, i.e. with a cargo capacity of about 1,250 tons. However, the General Council of British Shipping's comprehensive presentation to the Prince of Wales at Southampton on April 10 states that there are, in addition, 235 ships between 100 grt and 500 grt.

They are coastal and continental traders comprising a most important sector of the UK shipping industry which, in my opinion, is one of the few sectors with prospects of expansion in the years ahead. There are several reasons for this, but mainly increasing EEC trade and the fact that UK shipping costs compare favourably with those of most European and Scandinavian countries.

In fact, several UK companies which abandoned the ocean-going bulk trades because they found it impossible successfully to compete with Far Eastern rivals with far lower costs are now operating satisfactorily in continental trades.

Regarding Sir Edward's plea to the Prime Minister to appoint a senior minister "to reverse Britain's declining position in the maritime transport world", it will hopefully fall on deaf ears. It is one that has been expressed in every severe shipping depression in the last 50 years. That it has not hitherto been taken up and acted upon confirms my belief that it is totally devoid of merit.

Our decline will continue for several years yet, in my view, and there is as much chance of a special minister reversing the trend as there would be by appointing special ministers to oversee revivals in the motor cycle and motor car industries, among others.

Yours etc,
GEORGE J. BONWICK,
17 Chestnut Avenue,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
May 6.

museum, although unchanged outwardly, will more than treble its exhibition space and will be properly equipped to perform a role which, we firmly believe, is of great national importance.

Supported by other patrons who include the Prime Minister, ex-prime ministers, and other figures of distinction, we hope that many of your readers will wish to contribute to the redevelopment fund.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD ASHMORE, JOHN GRANDY,
MICHAEL BEETHAM, HARRING OF
VARYL BEGG, PETHERTON,
DERMOT BOYLE, HILL-NORTON,
EDWIN BRAMALL, RICHARD HULL,
JAMES, HENRY LEACH,
JAMES CUSSELL, LEVIN,
WILLIAM DICKSON, MICHAEL POLLOCK,
ELWORTHY, DENIS SPOTSWOOD,
ROLAND GIBBS.

Imperial War Museum,
Lambeth Road, SE1.
May 7.

From Mr Richard Rhodes James

Sir, It is good to remember with thanksgiving the victory in Europe. But those of us whose battles were further east and whose labours continued until Hiroshima hope that our battle may be commemorated with equal acclaim; and that we will not be today what we sometimes seemed to be those many years ago - the forgotten army.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD RHODES JAMES,
15 Almoners Avenue,
Cambridge,
May 4.

Cocoa concoction

From Mr G. V. Townshend
Sir, Your correspondent writing about the cocoa industry in Ghana (April 30) is both disingenuous and superficial.

Having spent the years 1948-61 directly engaged in the purchase of cocoa in the Gold Coast, I write with personal knowledge of the flourishing industry that existed throughout that period and I am quite sure the Cocoa Marketing Board was ably managed by dedicated staff.

The principle causes of the decline of the industry have been drought, disease, political chicanery and a lack of financial incentives to producers. The Cocoa Marketing Board still exists and, if, as Mr Akinyah claims, it virtually destroyed the cocoa farmer, it is a matter of grave misjudgement on the part of the independent state.

Yours sincerely,
G. V. TOWNSHEND,
Glebe Cottage,
Church Hill,
Hythe, Kent,
May 1.

it is a new government grant designed to help overcome any transitional difficulties which occur.

Finally, Mr Griffiths expresses doubts on the arrangements for collective funding of groups which serve more than one borough. It is encouraging that a majority of the boroughs have already designated Richmond as lead authority for a collective scheme in London and that staff are already in post in an embryo grant unit.

The voluntary sector is wrong to focus its sights too narrowly on the GLC and the metropolitan counties, and to assume that the boroughs and districts have not the energy or vision to recognise the valuable role of the voluntary bodies and to give them due priority within the overall resources available.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MAPLES,
House of Commons.



ON THIS DAY

MAY 8 1946

Count Schwerin von Krosigk was the Foreign Minister in the 10-day government of Admiral Dönitz, displacing von Ribbentrop. He had served as Finance Minister to Hitler. In 1949 he was put on trial as a war criminal and sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, but was released in 1951. Von Krosigk, a Rhodes Scholar, died in 1977.

"GERMANY HAS SUCCUMBED"

HIGH COMMAND'S SURRENDER

Count Schwerin von Krosigk, the German Foreign Minister, broadcast the following announcement from Flensburg yesterday:

"I, Count Schwerin von Krosigk, as the high command of the armed forces has today, at the order of Grand Admiral Dönitz, declared the unconditional surrender of all fighting German troops."

As the leading Minister of the Reich Government which the Grand Admiral has appointed for the dealing with the war task, I turn at this tragic moment of our history to the German nation. After a heroic fight of almost six years of incomparable hardship, Germany has succumbed to the overwhelming power of her enemies. To continue the war would mean senseless bloodshed and a futile disintegration.

A Government which has feeling of responsibility for the future of its nation was compelled to act on the collapse of all physical and material forces and to demand of the enemy the cessation of hostilities. It was the noblest task of the Grand Admiral and of the Government supporting him, after the terrible sacrifices which the German people have made, to lead the nation through the darkest phase of the war the lives of a maximum number of fellow countrymen. That the war was not ended immediately, simultaneously in the west and in the east, is to be explained by the reasons already stated.

We end this gravest hour of the German nation and its Reich. In this greatest hour of the German nation and its Reich, we bow in deep reverence before the dead of this war. Their sacrifices place the highest obligations on us. Our sympathy goes out above all to the wounded, the bereaved, and to all on whom this struggle has inflicted blows.

NO ILLUSIONS

No one must be under any illusions about the severity of the terms to be imposed on the German people by our enemies. We must now face our fate squarely. We must be prepared to make sacrifices in every sphere of life. We must not despair and fall into mere resignation. Once again we must set ourselves the task of finding a path through the dark future.

From the collapse of the past, let us preserve and save one thing, the unity of ideas of a national community which in the years of war have found their highest expression in the spirit of comradeship at the front and readiness to help one another in all the distress which has afflicted the homeland.

In our nation justice shall be the supreme law and the guiding principle. We must also recognize law as the basis of all human, moral, and material values in order to heal the dreadful wounds which the war has caused. Then we may hope that the atmosphere of hatred which to-day surrounds Germany all over the world will give place to a spirit of reconciliation among the nations without which the world cannot recover.

Respect for treaties will be as sacred as the aim of our nation to belong to the European family of nations as a member of which we want to mobilize all human, moral, and material forces in order to heal the dreadful wounds which the war has caused. Then we may hope that the atmosphere of hatred which to-day surrounds Germany all over the world will give place to a spirit of reconciliation among the nations without which the world cannot recover.

Count Schwerin von Krosigk also said:

"Then we may hope that our freedom will be restored to us, without which no nation can lead a bearable and dignified existence. We wish to devote the future of our nation to the return of the inmost and best forces of German nature, which have given to the world imperishable works and values."

We view with pride the heroic stand of our people, and we shall combine with our pride in the heroic struggle of our people the will to contribute, as a member of western culture, honest, peaceful labour - a contribution which represents the best traditions of our nation.

May God not forsake us in our heavy task. - British United Press.

Proposed scholarship

From Mr Nicholas Jacobs
Sir, As many thousands of anti-Nazi Germans - quite apart from the German Jews who perished in the camps - lost their lives as a result of their opposition to Hitler, the idea of a scholarship to commemorate this still too little known fact is very welcome. However, it is to be hoped that, if such a thing is realised, it will be open to the citizens of both German states and not just to those from the Federal Republic, as Sir Peter Tennant's letter (May 4) seems to imply.

As David Astor pointed out (April 26), the German resistance comprised a very broad political spectrum and included a large number of German communists. To exclude young Germans from the German Democratic Republic from such a scholarship would therefore be particularly inappropriate.

Yours sincerely,
NICHOLAS JACOBS,
10 Bury Road, NW5.
May 4.

Down to earth

From Dr Boyd Schlenker
Sir, Mr McLachlan's (May 2) experience with American airline pilots' command of the English language forced me to recall a similar disconcerting occasion. On a flight to the United States our captain cheerfully announced: "Ladies and gentlemen, in about thirty minutes we're gonna hit the east coast."

Yours faithfully,
B. S. SCHLENTHER,
University College,
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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 7: The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon opened Swakeleys House, Ickenham, Middlesex.

His Royal Highness, Festival Patron, this evening attended a Reception given by the Festival of American Arts and Entertainments at St James's Palace.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh attended the 250th Anniversary Banquet of the West India Committee at the Painters' Hall, EC2.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

The Hon. Mary Morrison has succeeded Lady Abel Smith as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE

May 7: Major-General W. B. James, Director General of Army Health Services, today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Australian Army Medical Corps.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Light Infantry, was present this evening at a Reception at the Naval and Military Club given to mark the Tercentenary of the Regiment.

Ruh. Lady Formoy, Sir Martin Gilliat and Captain James Lowther-Pinkerton were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 7: The Princess Margaret.

Countess of Snowdon today closed the Copper Mountain, sponsored by Selfridges Limited, in aid of the Centenary Appeal of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which Her Royal Highness is President.

Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

May 7: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today visited the 2nd and 3rd Battalions at Bournon Barracks, Caterick.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Charles Blount.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of Trinity House, will preside at the anniversary dinner to the Younger Brethren at Trinity House on May 13.

Princess Alexandra will visit St Mark's Hospital, City Road, London, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary celebrations on May 13.

The Princess of Wales, patron, London City Ballet, will attend a reception given by the ballet at Skinner's Hall on May 13.

Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the fund's offices at 10 Highbury Road, Wembley, and Suzanne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Kennedy, of Santa Maria, Dalkey, co Dublin.

Marriages

Mr M. J. Elger and Miss A. J. Cavanagh

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, W1, between Mr Michael Elger, son of Mr Ronald Elger and the late Mrs Elger of Lilliput, Dorset, and Miss Anna Maria Cavanagh, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Raymond Cavanagh, of Billesley, Essex. Father Brian Cavanagh, uncle of the bride and Father Kenneth Nugent, SJ, officiated.

Mr A. Everett and Mrs D. Denniston

The Most Rev Trevor Huddleston, CR, officiated at the marriage of Mr Allan Everett and Mrs Susan Denniston in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday, May 4.

The Rev John Church, the Very Rev Eric Heaton pronounced the blessing.

Mr J. N. Holland and Miss B. H. M. Hare

The marriage took place on Monday, May 6, 1985 at the church of St Lawrence Jewry, next Guildhall, in the City of London, of Mr James Nicholas Holland, son of Mr Robert Holland and Baroness Robert Rothschild, and Miss Beatrice Hannah Millicent Hare, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Hare. The Rev St John Pike officiated, assisted by the Rev Basil Watson.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Rebecca Hare, Miss Elizabeth Holland, Miss Katie Hickman, Miss Charlotte Villiers, Miss Susan Siddle and Mrs William Sheldon.

The bridegroom, the best man, a reception was held in the Old Library, Guildhall, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. S. Newall and Miss J. H. Ryan

The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr and Mrs Peter Newall, of Manor House, Great Hinton, Wiltshire, and Jennifer, second daughter of Sir Derek Ryan, Bt, of Ellville, am Rhein, West Germany, and Mrs Walter Lennon, of Newbury, Massachusetts, United States.

Mr C. D. Brown and Miss S. A. North

The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mr Rev W. and Mrs Brown of Dalkeith, and Stacie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs B. W. North, of Solihull.

Mr M. W. A. Davies and Miss J. C. Hinde

The engagement is announced between Michael William Alban, eldest son of Mr A. C. Davies, of Liphook, Hampshire, and Mrs S. A. Phipps, of Sheffield Terrace, London, W8, and Jane Caryl, youngest daughter of Mr J. E. D'O. Hinde, of Fressingfield, Suffolk, and Mrs C. M. M. Hinde, of Morningthorpe, Norfolk.

Mr T. G. Kok and Miss C. J. Giles

The engagement is announced between Timothy Gibbons, elder son of Dr and Mrs D'A. Kok, of Trumpington, Cambridge, and Claire, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. A. Giles, of New Milton, Hampshire.

Mr D. R. Morgan and Miss C. J. Darrah

The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs E. D. Davies, of Defford, Powys, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. V. Darrah, of Longparish, Hampshire.

Mr T. C. W. Ransom and Miss S. M. Wright

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs R. F. Ransom, of Wigginton Hill, Ives, Cambridgeshire, and Susan, only daughter of Dr and Mrs D. S. Wright, of Northern House, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire.

Dr B. D. Ross and Miss J. C. Myers

The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Mr Harry Ross, of Brighton, Sussex, and the late Mrs Ross, and Judith, daughter of Canon and Mrs Arnold Myers, of West Kirby, Wirral.

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Honour for newspaperman: Sir Edward Pickering (left), executive vice-chairman of Times Newspapers Ltd, with Mr Laurence Viney, Master of the Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers, after he was given the honorary freedom of the company at Stationers' Hall yesterday. In his long career with newspapers Sir Edward has been editor of the Daily Express (1951-77) and chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers (1975-77). He is the president of the Newspaper Press Fund (Photograph: John Voos).

Stationers' Hall, London, EC4, on Wednesday, May 15, at 4.45 pm.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Master of Trinity House, will preside at the anniversary dinner to the Younger Brethren at Trinity House on May 13.

Princess Alexandra will visit St Mark's Hospital, City Road, London, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary celebrations on May 13.

The Princess of Wales, patron, London City Ballet, will attend a reception given by the ballet at Skinner's Hall on May 13.

Princess Anne, president of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the fund's offices at 10 Highbury Road, Wembley, and Suzanne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Martin Kennedy, of Santa Maria, Dalkey, co Dublin.

Marriages

Mr M. J. Elger and Miss A. J. Cavanagh

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, W1, between Mr Michael Elger, son of Mr Ronald Elger and the late Mrs Elger of Lilliput, Dorset, and Miss Anna Maria Cavanagh, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Raymond Cavanagh, of Billesley, Essex. Father Brian Cavanagh, uncle of the bride and Father Kenneth Nugent, SJ, officiated.

Mr A. Everett and Mrs D. Denniston

The Most Rev Trevor Huddleston, CR, officiated at the marriage of Mr Allan Everett and Mrs Susan Denniston in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday, May 4.

The Rev John Church, the Very Rev Eric Heaton pronounced the blessing.

Mr J. N. Holland and Miss B. H. M. Hare

The marriage took place on Monday, May 6, 1985 at the church of St Lawrence Jewry, next Guildhall, in the City of London, of Mr James Nicholas Holland, son of Mr Robert Holland and Baroness Robert Rothschild, and Miss Beatrice Hannah Millicent Hare, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Hare. The Rev St John Pike officiated, assisted by the Rev Basil Watson.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Rebecca Hare, Miss Elizabeth Holland, Miss Katie Hickman, Miss Charlotte Villiers, Miss Susan Siddle and Mrs William Sheldon.

The bridegroom, the best man, a reception was held in the Old Library, Guildhall, and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Money supply rises to the danger level

The April money supply figures were never expected to be good. But few could have been prepared for the lurid statistics that emerged at 2.30 yesterday afternoon. Sterling M3 rose by an estimated 2.3 per cent in banking April, at least twice the top of the range of expectations and the worst monthly figures since July 1980, when the banking "corset" was removed and sterling M3 jumped by 4.2 per cent. On the evidence of the last three months sterling M3 is rising at an astonishing 19 per cent.

Bank lending rose by an awesome £2.6 billion, and the April figures pushed annualized sterling M3 growth in the 1984-85 target period, which ended in April, to 12 per cent, well outside the 6-10 per cent target range. And this just a couple of days after the Prime Minister had described the world economic summit's call for strict discipline as an endorsement of British economic policies. The Bank of England suggested, optimistically, that the main identifiable distortion to the figures was the boost to borrowing by companies wishing to take advantage of 1984-85 investment allowances by getting their capital spending in before the end of the financial year. This may have accounted for £1 billion of the £2.6 billion bank lending rise.

The unusually high £0.8 billion for "other counterparts", arrived at by a combination of large positive numbers for external and net non-deposit liabilities also boosted the sterling M3 figure. The external item may have been related to the Bank's recouping of reserves during the pound's rise.

But with all plausible distortions stripped out, sterling M3 still rose by around 1 1/2 per cent. Rightly, no official attempt was made to minimize a deteriorating situation. The Treasury contented itself with: "The bank lending figures show that the cautious approach to interest rates remains right." The next two sets of figures will have to be good if the July crisis of last year or the New Year sterling collapse are not to be repeated.

There was precious little comfort yesterday in the other money measures. Narrow money, M0 rose by 1/4 per cent, to give annualized growth of 5 1/2 per cent over the 1984-85 target period. PSL2 continued to sprint away, rising by 2-1/4 per cent in April. Although no longer a target aggregate, its rise of 16 1/2 per cent over the 1984-85 period also gave cause for concern.

The gilt-edged market is under no illusions. Long-dated stocks dropped more than a point in response to the figures and fell by half a point. This is not a helpful background for government funding, which has also to contend with the first call on British Telecom shares next month (£1.4 billion on June 24).

Dealers suspect that the authorities are endeavouring to shift attention away from sterling M3 as a target monetary aggregate; the preferred "official" focus may now be the exchange rate.

Banking's new manna - the perpetual floater

Midland Bank yesterday became the third British bank to tap the new source of capital available to the banks with a \$500 million (£413 million) perpetual floating-rate note issue. In the space of a week no less than \$1.65 billion has been raised from investors eager to gobble up this new type of paper. Euromarket investors have been snapping it up because the notes yield a better return than conventional debt issues. Although the notes, in effect, turn into preference shares in the event that the issuer is about to be liquidated, buyers have taken the view that this risk is hypothetical. Whether small banks will have much success raising capital by this route is still an unresolved question.

For the banks, the perpetual floater is

manna from heaven: cheap compared with preference or ordinary share capital and the formula pioneered by Lloyds Bank satisfies the Bank of England's criteria for primary capital. Bank balance sheets are being transformed overnight. Midland's free capital ratio goes up from 4.4 to 5 per cent (there is still a possibility its issue will be increased today). Lloyds Bank's issue, which was twice increased to \$750 million, brought in nearly a fifth more capital than the £507 million Barclays' rights issue earlier this year.

Midland and its merchant banking arm, Samuel Montagu, had been looking at ways of linking a perpetual floater to ordinary capital rather than preference shares, but given the market's receptiveness to the issues from Standard Chartered and Lloyds Bank, the decision was taken to follow the tried route. Midland's note is similar in both pricing and structure to the Lloyds'.

The Midland issue will be seen as a further feather in the cap of Michael Julien, the group finance director recruited from BICC, who has played a key part in managing the group's finances through its difficulties with Crocker National Corporation. His responsibilities are soon to be extended to include administration which will involve taking control of two of the group's big spending departments - premises and group management services (which covers computing).

Of all the big banks, Midland was most in need of fresh capital. It will have to commit substantial resources to securities operations at Montagu/Greenwell, although less than perhaps once envisaged. It remains to be seen whether discussions now under way with Aetna Life and Casualty to buy out Aetna's 40 per cent stake in Samuel Montagu Investment Management (and the ambitious David Stevens whose other interests include United Newspapers), involve the bank in further outlay.

Midland already has fund management activities of its own; Aetna is most interested in the fund management side of Montagu; and Midland could concentrate on capital markets and corporate finance through Samuel Montagu/W Greenwell. Logic and need suggest the deal will be done, and fairly soon.

Securities lesson again for Japan

The Japanese authorities do not appear to have made a great deal of progress in satisfying the Bank of England's concerns about an adequate supervisory regime for Japanese securities houses in London which wish to obtain banking licences.

Yesterday a team from the Japanese Ministry of Finance led by Mr Tomomitsu Oba, vice-minister for international affairs, was holding talks with the British Treasury on a number of matters of mutual interest concerning respective financial markets, liberalization of the yen and general economic issues. The aspirations of the big Japanese securities houses in London was also raised.

The British position has consistently been that the Japanese securities houses can only be considered for deposit-taking licences in London if they are regulated by the relevant banking supervisor in their home territory.

Furthermore, British officials insist that the issue is one of principle and is not negotiable.

If and when the supervisory obstacles to the big Japanese houses such as Nomura, Daiwa, Yamaichi and Nikko obtaining banking licences is settled, applications would be decided on the individual merits of each case. The Japanese firms believe it would enhance their ability to compete in London if they were able to take deposits and it is interesting to see that Phillips & Drew is also seeking a banking licence to take deposits.

M&S to borrow substantial sums in £500m trade war

By Patricia Wheatcroft

Marks and Spencer is embarking on a £500 million expansion programme which will add more than a million square feet to its selling space over the next two years. This, coupled with the need to finance its new in-house credit card, is forcing the company to borrow substantial sums of money.

The plans are part of the strategy of the M&S chairman, Lord Rayner, to cope with increasing High Street competition.

Yesterday M&S reported pretax profits for the year to March up from £279.3 million to £303.4 million, at the bottom end of market expectations. Its smaller competitor, British Homes Stores, lifted pretax profits from £55.2 million to £61 million over the same period.

Both companies achieved the increases of 8.6 per cent and 10.5 per cent respectively against a background of increased consumer spending and low price inflation.

Both companies have been

trying to give themselves a more fashionable image recently in order to compete with new chains. BHS employs three firms of consultants to aid its marketing, product development and store design.

Marks and Spencer is still finding fashion a problem, and despite substantial volume growth in most of its department, women's outerwear was, according to Lord Rayner, disappointing, apparently growing at 7.5 per cent in the second half of the year. The year rose from £2,868 million to £3,213 million, with British sales up from £2,597 million to £2,900 million. Homeware, footwear and accessories produced a 22.4 per cent increase in sales, most of that the result of new volume, for the company's price inflation during the year was 1.7 per cent. Food sales were up by another 14.6 per cent. BHS reported price inflation of 3.5 per cent in its non-food departments and 4.5 per cent in food.

which demonstrates Mark's ability to get the best possible prices from its suppliers.

Applications for the new M&S credit card are already more than 500,000, which the company had expected by next November, and according to the finance director, Mr Keith Oates, the card accounted for 5.8 per cent of M&S sales last week, the fifth of its operation, with the level going above 10 per cent in some stores. Although the card will eventually become a profit centre for the company, start-up costs last year topped £1.9 million and M&S is going to have to fund large-scale borrowing on it.

The British Home Stores capital spending hit £60 million last year and will be about the same this year, but much of the emphasis is on revamping old stores rather than adding new ones. Twenty-six of the company's 128 stores were given the new look last year and another 23 will be done this year. According to managing director

Mr Dennis Cassidy, the new design has an almost instant effect on sales.

BHS sales last year rose from £494.4 million to £550.4 million with food, always a problem area for the company showing the least growth. During the year the company dropped out of its efforts to sell houseplants and electronics.

The chairman, Sir Maurice Hodgson, announced that BHS's Scottish stores were being hard hit by the Scottish revaluation, which had added around £750,000 to their rates bill and would inhibit any further expansion there.

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£45m scheme

House of Fraser is to go ahead with the re-development of the Bakers of Kensington site at a cost of £45 million. A 150,000 sq ft department store, a shopping mall and office accommodation will be provided.

Polly Peck tour pays off with 25p share jump

By William Kay City Editor

More than £23 million was added to the market value of Polly Peck International at one time yesterday, as fund managers placed their orders for the shares in the wake of last week's company visit to Turkey and northern Cyprus.

Representatives of more than 50 institutions - bankers, brokers and advisers - returned to London on Sunday after the four-day trip. Yesterday morning the shares jumped 25p to 289p, before slipping back to 279p.

The purpose of the trip was to let the City see for itself Polly Peck's installations. It was the first time that the company had shown its Middle East operations to the investment community, and came after a series of press reports suggesting that things were not going as well as had been claimed.

The tour took in the Uni-Pac carton factory and the fruit and vegetable packing station in Cyprus, and the £20 million packing and cold store development at Adana on the mainland.

But the climax was the official opening by the Prime Minister of Turkey, Mr Turgut Ozal, of the consumer electronics assembly plant near Izmir. This has been constructed in conjunction with Thorn EMI. Several members of the Turkish cabinet attended the ceremony.

Mr John Oliver, of the stockbroker Laurence Prust said: "The political acceptance of Asil Nadir, the chairman of Polly Peck, was manifest on this occasion. But I was also surprised at the level of development at Adana".

Mr Nigel Uley, of Laing & Cruikshank, added: "I was very impressed with the efficiency of the operations. We are optimistic about the Turkish economy. Its industrialization offers great potential".

Polly Peck is due to announce interim results on May 20. L. Messel, the company's broker, predicts an increase in profits from the equivalent of £21 million to £31 million before tax. They forecast a rise from £50.6 million to £85 million for the year to August. Last night a European bank was reported to be trying to buy several million of the company's shares on the stock market.

Samuel Properties plans 1,000 flats in Green Giant site

By Judith Huntley

The controversial Green Giant office development site once planned at Vauxhall Bridge on the south bank of the Thames has been sold to Samuel Properties, which proposes to build 1,000 flats in a £50 million scheme.

Samuel Properties has bought the eight acre site from Bank Julius Baer & Co of Switzerland. The bank, which has a London branch, held the site as security against a loan made to Arab interests involved in Mr Ronald Lyon's Arunbridge project, which collapsed in 1983 with debts estimated at £8 million.

Part of the company's collapse was due to its inability to obtain funds for the £100 million office development planned on either side of Vauxhall Bridge on the former Effra and Bridgefoot sites, now owned by Samuel Properties.



Ronald Lyon: crash embarrassed Government

The liquidation of Arunbridge was the third time that Mr Lyon had been made bankrupt.

Arunbridge's demise caused embarrassment and concern not only to shareholders and creditors but also to the Government. The then Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr

Michael Heseltine, set aside the normal planning procedures to allow the Lyon scheme to go ahead and an architectural competition was held for the site. There was vociferous protest against the 1 million sq ft office plan for the site but it was overruled. In the event Arunbridge ceased to exist and the site remained in the hands of Middle Eastern interests.

Mr Michael Berman, managing director of Samuel Properties, would not say how much he is paying for the site other than it was "a lot of money". The deal was only finalized on Friday night. The company intends developing the largest part of the site, which includes the Nine Elms cold store, with a huge residential scheme which will include some shopping space. If the developer obtains planning permission for the project, it will be the largest private development in London since Dolphin Square was built in the 1930s.

Bank supervision rules 'set example to world'

By Our City Staff

Mr Robert Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, claimed yesterday that the Bank was setting an example to the rest of the world through its recent tightening of banking supervision rules.

He was referring to the weighting which is to be given to note-issuing facilities to decide whether a bank has enough capital.

In the keynote speech at the two-day conference on banking supervision and controls organised by the Arab Bankers Association, Mr Leigh-Pemberton emphasized the importance of the way in which bankers look at supervisory requirements - "even more important

than the technical difficulties imposed in controlling off-balance sheet risks". He said: "As supervisors have sought to increase capital ratios, some banks appear to have looked for ways for doing effectively the same sort of business but off-balance sheet, and thus without capital costs."

"The risks are in reality different and the need for capital is still there. It is for bankers as well as supervisors to stress this need."

Mr Leigh-Pemberton told the conference that further discussions on off-balance sheet business would take place in the coming months between the Bank and the London banks.

Westland turns to US

By Our City Staff

Westland, the troubled helicopter company, announced yesterday that it has retained Goldman Sachs, the United States investment bank, to advise it on options in its attempts to stage off Bristow Rotocraft's £89 million contested takeover bid.

One reason for choosing Goldman Sachs could be that Westland hopes to use the firm's American financial connections to tide it over.

It lost a £65 million contract with the Indian Government last week and has yet to find replacement orders. There is a rumour that Westland will place an order with the company if the Bristow bid succeeds.

Westland would not comment on whether Goldman Sachs is to be involved in floating off its Technologies Group.

IN BRIEF

Industry's costs fall

The pound's rise and seasonally lower electricity charges pushed industry's costs down sharply last month. Figures published yesterday showed that manufacturing industry's raw material and fuel costs fell by 2.5 per cent. About half the fall was due to lower demand for electricity, the rest reflected the pound's 10.6 per cent rise against the dollar.

The 12-month rate of input price inflation dropped from 9.5 per cent in March to 6 per cent in April. Manufacturing industry's output prices rose by 1.1 per cent during the month, one-third of this due to the Budget increases in tobacco and alcohol duty. The 12-month rate was unchanged at 5.5 per cent.

Retail sales in March were up 1.6 per cent in volume compared with February, with the seasonally adjusted index standing at 113.2 (1980=100) according to final figures from the Department of Trade and Industry. Provisional estimates had put the rise at 1.2 per cent. The March sales volume was the second highest on record.

US award for N Sea platform

The premier award at this year's Offshore Technology Conference at Houston, Texas, has been won by the Conoco's tension-leg platform installed at the North Sea Hutton field last summer.

The award was made for "design innovations that have advanced deep water oil and gas production technology."

British Telecommunications is to buy the Canadian telephone technology company, CTRG, for about £520 million (£12 million).

Forecast down

Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the United States Commerce Secretary, has confirmed that the Reagan Administration is scaling its official growth forecast back to "somewhere between 3.5 per cent and 3.9 per cent". The Administration also faces another possible setback in Congress over its deficit reduction plan.

Jeans warning

Lee Cooper, the jeans group, reported pretax profits up from £8.2 million to £8.9 million for last year and said the immediate future in many countries in which it operates is unlikely to be easy. A final dividend of 2.275p is proposed making an unchanged total for the year of 3.675p.

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'Nissan bid for Alfa' speculation

From John Earle Rome

The ailing Italian car manufacturer Alfa Romeo is at the centre of speculation that it may be taken over by Nissan of Japan or Chrysler of the United States.

An Alfa Romeo spokesman had no comment on reports of contacts with the foreign makers beyond saying that "for some time we have not excluded the possibility of collaboration with firms in any part of the world".

Nissan is already linked to Alfa Romeo through a joint venture at Avellino, Southern Italy, where the Arna, a model with an Italian engine and Japanese bodywork, is manufactured. The Italian press has reported that Chrysler has also contacted Alfa Romeo to sound out the possibilities of collaboration and a share purchase.

The second Italian car manufacturer after Fiat, Alfa Romeo forms part of the state-owned IRI (Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale) group. With output limited to about 200,000 cars a year, it has not shown a profit since 1980, and last year lost 94.5 billion lire (£39.3 million).

Mergers cleared

The proposed mergers of Norcross and UBM, and London and Midland Industrials and Allied Textile will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

E F Hutton

E F Hutton, the Wall Street securities firm, was ordered to pay \$10 million in fines and compensation after admitting bank fraud charges, not \$110 million as stated in The Times yesterday.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	985.8 (-4.1)
FT-A All Share	(N/A)
FT Govt Securities	80.56 (-0.54)
FT-SE 100	1305.5 (-5.4)
Bargains	26.560
Dataseam USM	112.99 (-0.06)
New York	
Dow Jones	1257.88 (+10.05)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,506.30 (-38.95)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1593.28 (-3.17)
Amsterdam	212.0 (-1.0)
Sydney: AO	866.4 (+3.1)
Frankfurt	
Feeder Ag.	1241.8 (+5.5)
Commerzbank	
Brussels:	
General	200.58 (-4.61)
Paris: CAC	217.3 (+1.0)
Zurich:	
SKA General	348.70 (+1.00)

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base:	12 1/2 - 12 3/4 %
Federal Funds:	7 1/4 - 7 3/4 %
3-month Treasury Bills:	12 1/2 - 12 3/4 %
Buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate:	10.50 %
Federal Funds:	7 1/4 - 7 3/4 %
3-month Treasury Bills:	12 1/2 - 12 3/4 %
Long bond:	100 1/2 %

GOLD

London fixing:	
100 S311 250m:	\$313.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50
100 S314.50:	\$314.50

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
E Upton	44 + 8
Barr & Wall Arnold	103 + 12
Intervis Vtd	10 + 1
W Tyzack & Turner	81 + 8
Thomas Marshall (Lx)	57 + 5
Owen Owen	230 + 20
Appleby Grp	59 + 5
Concentric	73 + 6
Star Computer	83 + 5
Parker Knoll "A"	205 + 16
Steinberg Grp	42 + 3
Phicom	43 + 3
Spencer Clark	294 + 19
Vickers	32 + 2
Feeder Ag.	50 + 3
G W Sparrow	88 + 4
John Carr (Doncaster)	102 + 6
Relyon Grp	55 + 3
Nu-Swift Ltd	279 + 15
Polly Peck	279 + 15
Andre de Brett	19 + 1

FALLS:

Bristol Oil & Min.	18 - 3
Falcon Resources	365 - 42
Acorn Comp.	10 - 1
Metal Sciences	83 - 8
J Billam	

CURRENCIES

London:	
£: \$1.2180 (+0.01)	
DM: 3.8590 (-0.0220)	
Sfr: 3.2455 (-0.0265)	
FF: 11.7800 (-0.05)	
Yen: 308.15 (-0.4)	
Index: 00.0 (-1.0)	

New York:

£: \$1.2155	
DM: 3.8515	
Sfr: 3.2415 (-0.07)	
FF: 11.7815	
Yen: 308.15	
Index: 00.0	

SDR: N/A

Textiles fear further sharp decline as MFA comes under review

By Alison Eadie

The recent takeover bid for Tootal, one of the biggest names in British textiles, by the Australian Entrad group, focused attention on the equivocal position that many British textile companies have now reached.

The period of disaster and imminent failure only three years ago has all but disappeared. Most of the important producers have survived as financial entities and some have great surpluses of cash.

The British textile and clothing industry has certainly been through huge changes in the past few years.

Jobs have been shed at a ferocious pace with numbers employed standing at 494,000 at the end of December last year against 750,000 five years before. Productivity has risen 30 per cent since 1980 with a 4 per cent rise last year.

This picture is more comforting than in the dark days of 1980-81 when the pound soared to nearly \$2.50 and touched DM4.90, demand slumped and interest rates and inflation were high.

Recently however, Courtaulds issued a reminder that there was more shrinking to come when it announced the closure of two plants in Clwyd.

On the eve of tomorrow's House of Commons debate on the Multi Fibre Arrangement, the British textile industry has given a warning that it faces sharp contraction without renewal of the MFA. The MFA governs the volume of imports into developed country markets from less developed and generally lower production cost countries. But the British industry says

North Wales with the loss of 1,100 jobs.

So how fragile is the recovery?

Mr John Lister, president of the British Textile Confederation, writing in its annual review published last month, described the British textile industry as dynamic but vulnerable. He stressed the industry remains susceptible to factors beyond its control, such as government policies, exchange rate fluctuations, state aid to textile firms in the EEC and the continued existence of the Multi Fibre Arrangement, due to expire in July next year. Indeed, the report is aimed squarely at tomorrow's Commons debate on the future of the MFA.

Other spectres loom on the horizon. They include China's emergence as a significant exporter of textiles and clothing

that simply abolishing the MFA would not ensure free trade because many developing countries protect their markets heavily. British trade organizations argue that textile demand in the EEC is growing by barely 1 per cent a year while the MFA allows access to EEC markets at a far higher rate, and that abolition of the MFA would allow other countries to increase their market share even faster.

The principal worry occupying the collective mind of the textile industry at the moment is, however, the impending expiry of the MFA. Intense lobbying is underway ahead of the July meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade working party into the MFA. The BTC has just delivered a lengthy study to Whitehall disputing Professor Aubrey Silberstein's report, commissioned by the Department of Trade and Industry and published last December, which found that Britain would benefit from ending import restrictions on textiles.

Aggregated data suggests the MFA has been of limited value to the British textile industry, but has benefited other developed countries, particularly in the EEC, which export to Britain. The BTC says this argument is not supported if the

data is examined on a category by category basis.

TEMPUS

Pedestrian M&S results belie pace of change

Have press conference videos replaced the architecture of the new head office as an early warning system for corporate problems? Marks and Spencer yesterday released a fulsome video of the retailer's charms, and a set of profit figures which left the market distinctly underwhelmed.

Last year, sales rose by 12 per cent to £3.2 billion, profits by just 8.6 per cent to £303 million. Comparisons are always unfair but interim profits at Burton rose by about a third. There seems little in Marks' figures to enliven a market which has shown signs recently of disenchantment. In the course of the last 12 months, the shares have underperformed by around 12 per cent. Yesterday, they closed unchanged at 134p.

There are some explanations for the relatively pedestrian figures. The miners' strike may have trimmed sales and profits by £24 million and £6 million respectively. Launch costs, worth nearly £2 million, of the Marks' Chargecard, have also been absorbed by the profit and loss account. The depreciation charge jumped some £10 million to £44.3 million, reflecting the increased capital expenditure plans.

Marks' traditional strengths also underpin the figures. Despite an average performance in clothing, volume gains in turnover totalled some 10 per cent, compared with price rises of nearly 2 per cent.

What the figures fail to convey is the tremendous rate of change within the group. The 1986-88 expansion programme will add the equivalent of 30 new stores to the chain and gearing should rise to around a fifth of equity from virtually nil. Floating the Chargecard will require capital of up to £1 billion.

The concept retailers' attack on Marks' domain is provoking a massive counter-attack. By the end of the push, the group p&L may well have been transformed, offering shareholders both enhanced risks and greater possible rewards. Whether they are also asked to help finance Marks' New Look remains to be seen.

British Home Stores

British Home Stores might not be quite as bad as the proverbial old dog when it comes to learning the new tricks of high street retailing but it is still far from conjuring up the magical improvement in profits performance which a patient audience is expecting from the move to an altogether slicker and more up-market posture.

Preliminary pretax profits of £61 million, up from £55.2

million, were in line with expectations and reflect more of the costs than benefits of the gradual shedding of the somewhat dowdy image which has dogged BHS in the past.

The £60 million capital spending, up from £35 million, reflects the commitments to refurbishment but it took its toll on cash flow. Net cash at the year-end was down from £61 million to £35 million.

Add to this a bigger depreciation bill, up by £1.8 million, and the disruption to stores which makes it clear that the transition is not without its pain.

BHS is reluctant to spell out in detail benefits which are accruing in those stores that have been improved. Customer spending and sales per square foot apparently benefit from the facilities but net impact on profits is probably marginal at the moment.

In the current year the refurbishment programme will be stepped up and the number of new-looking stores will double to about 50 out of the total chain of 128.

In the longer term the benefits for BHS could be quite substantial. Meanwhile, it remains solid and steady but a little dull. Genuine volume increases of 5.3 per cent in the year suggest that it is more than holding its own although the company seems concerned about the impact of a huge increase in shoplifting on its margins.

The shares, up 10p at 293p, were boosted by rumours of a takeover. BHS, unless you believe this they are more suited to the long-term investor.

Lee Cooper

Lee Cooper has coped far better than its larger American counterparts. Wrangler and Levi Strauss, with the fall off in demand for traditional blue denim jeans.

Yesterday it reported pretax profits for last year up from £8.2 million to £8.9 million and although this caused some disappointment in the stock market - the shares fell 7p to 211p - it looks impressive, given the fundamental shift in the sales mix that occurred. Blue jeans accounted for only 40 per cent of sales last year against 60 per cent in 1983.

Lee Cooper is doing everything it should to counter the collapse in its traditionally high growth, high margin market of denim jeans. The trouble is that in the process it is transforming itself into just another branded garment manufacturing company. And that is a far more competitive market than jeans ever were.

COMMODITIES REVIEW

City steals a march in freight futures

First, credit where credit is due. As long-suffering readers of this column will be only too aware, I have not always been complimentary about the inventiveness and competitiveness of London's futures markets. But the Baltic International Freight Futures Exchange (Biffex) was the name devised just to yield the near-acronym "Biffex", which started trading on Wednesday, is definitely an exception.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the exchange is that it is the fruit of several years of heart-searching in London about where City markets should and could be going. Other ventures, such as the London International Financial Futures Exchange and For one thing, London has stolen a march on its rivals. Index, the computer exchange based in Bermuda, had a similar index but adopted the Baltic Freight Futures Index. It - but the kudos will do London no harm.

For another, Biffex is the remarkable, if not unprecedented, outcome of cooperation between markets. The Baltic Exchange owns the all-important Freight Futures Index and the floor on which the market is trading. The London Commodity Exchange lent its experience in education and public relations; the Grain and Feed Trade Association gave its expertise in commodities which constitute so much of the bulk cargo business; and the International Commodity Clearing House stamped its vital imprimatur on a technically distinct venture.

This feature is probably the most intriguing for futures specialists. Indices have gained acceptance in recent years within the trade, even if they are little understood and conceivably viewed with suspicion in the real world. But stock markets, and their various sub-sectors obviously lend themselves to such treatment. The ingenuity of Biffex lies in extending the principle to a problem of which the shipping and commodities industries

have long been aware but which has hitherto evaded solution.

The index is calculated from 13 individually weighted dry bulk cargo voyages, chosen for their representative character. They range from 55,000 tonnes of heavy grains, sorghum and soya from the US Gulf to the Antwerp/Rotterdam/Amsterdam area (20 per cent of the index) to 14,000 tonnes of rock phosphate from Agaba to the west coast of India (2.5 per cent of the index). The actual or estimated rates for every voyage are supplied by each of eight shipbrokers daily.

The authors of the index claim a very close correlation between its movement and actual rates. No doubt there is room for refinement, the obvious omission being wet cargoes. The number or identity of the routes could also change. But in general I do not think that the index is a problem.

Instead, for every credit there must be a debit, and I think the debit for this market is simply whether enough shipowners, charterers and operators will see a use for it. Biffex officials have been on the stump promoting the cause, and proclaim that the reception is favourable. Characters are said to be particularly interested. Significantly, the modest business attracted so far by Index in America is thought to have originated with speculators.

The shipping industry, however, is an odd mixture of prudence and outright gambling. It is also very depressed at the moment. Slow economic growth, changing patterns of material consumption and too many ships have caused 10 per cent of dry cargo capacity to be laid up.

Whether in these circumstances the interest expressed at Biffex's seminars will be translated into trading on the exchange is uncertain. Futures, after all, do not enjoy an unblemished reputation. Has Biffex, I wonder, considered options? Now that would really deserve credit.

Michael Prest

Blue chip flurry turns into loss

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

A delicate stock market advance was cut dead yesterday by the unexpectedly weak money supply figures.

Blue chip gains were transformed into falls and government stocks looked particularly ragged with declines of up to £1.

At the close the FT 30 share index, at one time sporting a springtime advance of 4.8 points was down 4.1 points at 985.8 points. The more broadly based FT SE share index, which had risen to a new peak of 1,315.3 points early on, finished with a 5.4 points fall at 1,305.5 points.

The dismal money supply figures resurrected fears that interest rates could be forced up. But with sterling rallying against the dollar and hopes that the April figures are an aberration the market settled down towards the close to the view that money rates should not rise but any cut will be delayed for some time.

Vickers was the outstanding performer among blue chips. The arrival of Mr Saul Steinberg's Reliance Financial Services with a 5.5 per cent shareholding sent the shares surging 23p to 298p at one point. They closed at 294p.

Mr Steinberg, a financier, was involved in a bitter and prolonged takeover struggle with Mr Robert Maxwell in the late 1960s.

British Telecom was another leader to buck the downward pull. It held on to a 2p gain to pass 150p for the first time.

With the Government's share sale coming in for favourable comment, British Aerospace edged ahead to 408p. But by the close the gain was clipped to just 2p at 405p.

Polly Peck, as the analysts put pen to paper after their £450-a-head trip to the company's operations in Cyprus and Turkey, jumped 15p to 279p.

The department store sector is alive with takeover speculation. Debenhams and Bentshalls have enjoyed speculative runs and now Owen Owen is getting its share of the action. Yesterday the shares gained 20p to 230p on suggestions that a bidder was about to pounce. Favourite to make an offer is Harris Queensway.

Parker Knoll, the furniture group, attracted a revival of takeover gossip, gaining 16p at 205p.

Windsor Securities, the insurance broker formerly called Brentland Beard, slipped 1p to 54p as Lander Investments, an insurance group, moved to appoint four directors. Lander, which has nearly 15 per cent of Windsor, is the private vehicle of Mr John Carr.

The three man Windsor board is considering the proposal.

High-flying Pentland Industries was unchanged at 720p as the company disclosed plans to float off on the United States

over-the-counter market its successful Reebok running shoes off shoot. After the share sale Pentland will be the largest single shareholder in Reebok and intends to retain this shareholding for the foreseeable future.

Share prices on the property pitches continued to react to the upward trend in rental values, and sizeable gains were scattered across the lists. British Land rose 4p to 144p, Hamersley ordinary and 'A' shares gained 15p to 480p and 455p respectively. Land Securities was up 4p at 304p, MEPC rose 5p to 305p and Slough Estates edged 1p better to 139p.

In stores, British Home Stores was in the spotlight, rising 10p to 293p as its profits news pleased the market. There was also talk of a possible bid for BHS, although largely on the basis that it is one of the few listed groups which has not come in for takeover speculation in the past year.

Marks and Spencer, which also produced figures yesterday, slipped 3p to 133p. The high

street chain looks ever more stagnant, in terms of profit growth.

Dumhill Holdings, which is due to report results later this month, came in for profit-taking after its recent strong run. The share price fell 12p to 368p. Woolworth Holdings dipped 1p to 815p as the annual report and accounts came under scrutiny. Analysts now believe the company must be valued solely on trading grounds, since asset values have been fully taken into account.

Debenhams shares continue to see plenty of action, after a double-figure rise in late trading on Friday to 288p. Takeover talk is still the source of market hopes, although the department store group has yet to receive an approach. Mr David Hillyard, a member of the Debenhams board, said on Friday, "We are not aware of any share build-up, nor have we heard from a bidder". Yesterday the shares dipped 3p to 285p.

Oils were mixed. Falcon Resources, fell 42p to 365p on technical selling. Burmah Oil,

after better optimism, gained 3p to 241p. Lasso fell 7p to 308p.

Banks, as Midland Bank joined the floating rate notes bandwagon, were little changed. Midland eased 5p to 354p. Early insurance gains were trimmed with Commercial Union down 1p to 215p. Egoi Consolidated Mines

Shares of G. W. Sparrow, the crane hire group, are riding at their year's high of 50p despite a sharp profit downturn. Trading prospects are brighter and the shares have been given a lift by the flotation of the Scott Greenham group, which arrived on the stock market last month at a fancy rating for a company in crane and plant hire.

came back from suspension as the South African gold mining plans to sell a chunk of its controlling interest in Springs Daga Gold Mines for more than £1 million rand, about £17 million.

Egoi will be left with 34 per cent of an enlarged share capital at Spring Daga - down from 75 per cent - and the cash raised will go toward a new gold recovery plant and expansion of mining operations. Egoi shares were suspended at 105p, and yesterday moved from a new opening price of 104p to 98p, but the apparent fall is the result of currency movements between the rand and sterling.

rather than any market disapproval of the proposed deal.

Shares in Yelverton Investments rose revealed 1p to 31p as Clabir International Corporation it now has 20.295 per cent of the company. Clabir, a US holding company, picked up 19.98 per cent of Yelverton last November and the latter's share price has been a firm feature on the USM lists since then.

Nyllyx, the loss-making company which offers and co-ordinated viewdata system, stayed at 11p as announcements were made concerning large holdings in its shares. Tacitus, the American-based investor which stepped in at troubled Nyllyx in December, holds 5.98 million shares, while Langham Investments has 1,123,330 shares and Midland Bank nominees 1,027,972.

Neil & Spencer Holdings, the laundry equipment supplier, slipped 1p to 31p as the merger with Jensen Corporation of the US goes ahead. Mr Richard Hersh, controlling directors of Jensen, now control 33.33 per cent of N & S shares.

Ingall Industries shares were unchanged at 108p. Confederation Life Assurance Co announced an increase in its holding in the company to 6.03 per cent. Ingall has been chased by takeover attempts in recent weeks, with a Birmingham Co-operative Society apparently losing out to an agreed bid from House of Fraser.

Customer service and innovation produce outstanding results

Extracts from the Statement by the Governor, Sir Thomas N. Risk

The Year's Results

I am pleased to report that in a year of marked progress in our traditional activities, coupled with continued product innovation in new areas, the Group Operating Profit reached a record of £82.3 million. This is £21.0 million (34%) higher than that of the previous year.

These are good results reflecting excellent teamwork and the success of policies over the last two or three years aimed at extending the range of services and volume of business.

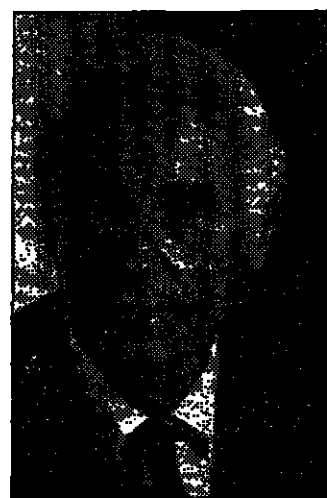
New Developments

When the rate of change within the financial services industry is so remarkable, the listing of new business developments introduced in the last year by this Bank may seem superfluous but, as in previous years, these have included innovations of such significance that they demand specific mention. The launch throughout the U.K. of our system of Home and Office Banking has roused widespread interest and a strong response from personal and small business customers, demonstrating the potential demand for such interactive services via the user's television screen. A new satellite-linked, computer-based international remittance system which we have developed in association with Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh, U.S.A., enables organisations having to remit funds on a regular basis to personal beneficiaries in the U.S.A., to do so much more quickly and cheaply than before. In February the national launch was announced of the Marks & Spencer Chargecard which will be operated on the basis of systems developed for Marks and Spencer p.l.c. by North West Securities Limited, who will manage the administration of the Chargecard for a period of up to three years.

Our presence in the English market has been extended further with the opening of our sixth Regional Office in Leeds and the conversion of our Carlisle representation to that of a full Branch. Our activities outside the U.K. have been widened by the opening in February of our Branch in Jersey; this has already attracted a gratifying volume of new business from all over the world.

Objectives

I spoke last year about the Bank's determination to compete and to use modern technology to provide our increasing number of customers with the best possible range of services. In setting these objectives for ourselves we never lose sight of the need to provide a personal service. Technology continues to be used to extend and speed up the routine functions and so free our staff for those activities where personal attention, friendly service and banking expertise can be most valuable. It was to underline this objective that the successful "A Friend for Life" advertising campaign



Sir Thomas N. Risk, Governor

SUMMARY OF GROUP RESULTS

Year ended	28th Feb. 1985 (\$ millions)	29th Feb. 1984 (\$ millions)
Group Operating Profit	82.3	61.3
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	1.4	0.5
	83.7	61.8
Payable to Staff under Profit-Sharing Schemes	3.3	2.5
Group Profit before Tax	80.4	59.3
Total Assets	7,217	6,143
Proprietors' Funds	402	322

SALIENT FEATURES from the Annual Report

- Group pre-tax profit increased by 36%.
- Total dividend up by 10.7%.
- Parent Bank's pre-tax profit nearly 50% higher at £59.1m.
- North West Securities' pre-tax profit up by £1.9m to £17.2m.
- British Linen Bank's pre-tax profit marginally lower at £4.1m.
- Another year of product innovation and growth in business.
- Proposed rights issue to raise £81m.

was launched last year. This slogan conveys a message to our customers, but serves also as a useful reminder to all of us in the Bank. Good service is vital to the health of our organisation and we are determined to provide it. At the same time we have an equally clear and important objective, which is to make this Group as profitable and its Balance Sheet as strong as any in the industry. These objectives are not inconsistent; indeed they are interdependent.

Employment Opportunities

Over the years we have been investing in and introducing new technology and systems with a view to keeping our costs down and ensuring that we are fully competitive. We make no apology for this and we find in our performance evidence that this policy has been right. The growing potential of the financial services industry for providing interesting and challenging careers in Scotland for youngsters should now be more fully recognised. It is not a coincidence,

following a period of rapid innovation, that there has been a greater increase in the number of our full time employees in the past twelve months than we have seen for a number of years. If we can ensure, through constant striving for improved productivity, that our expansion is profitable and that in consequence we employ more people in more fulfilling tasks then nobody will be more pleased than I.

Balance Sheet

Total resources shown in the Group's consolidated Balance Sheet represent a growth of 17% over the previous year's figures.

Along with the Group's Preliminary Statement on 22nd April 1985, we announced plans for a rights issue. The purpose of the issue is to enhance the strength of our capital base to ensure that organic growth and investment in technology can be continued so that the Group can take full advantage of further opportunities as they arise.



BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from Bank of Scotland Public Affairs Department, The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

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THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your right share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year paid or lost
1	PROPERTY	
2	Triford Park	
3	Warner	
4	MEPC	
5	Prop & Rev	
6	Br Land	
7	Halfwood Op	
8	Cup & Counties	
9	Land Securities	
10	Mountain	
11	Bacon (P)	
12	DRAPERY AND STORES	
13	Wigall (Hony)	
14	Prem Stores	
15	Millets Leisure	
16	Stenberg	
17	Elan	
18	Burton	
19	Courts (Furn) A	
20	Moss Bros	
21	Hevenorth (U)	
22	Superdrug Stores	
23	INDUSTRIALS A-D	
24	Dominion Int	
25	BOC	
26	Br Syphon	
27	Appicare	
28	Brook St Bureau	
29	BETEL	
30	Blundell-Penn	
31	Brilliance Eng	
32	AIN	
33	Dalget	
34	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
35	Feeder Agric Ind	
36	Habit Precision	
37	Hoplinsons	
38	Jackson (J&H)	
39	Haden	
40	Hall (K)	
41	Johnson Mathew	
42	Hay (Norman)	
43	Hawker Siddeley	
44	Hanover	
45	Times Newspapers Limited Year Daily Total	

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
124.5	124.0	Deutsche Bank	212.5	+0.5	128	8.7	
124.5	124.0	First Nat Finance	17.5	-0.5	1.2	1.2	
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124.5	124.0	Parsons (P)	17.5	-0.5	1.2	1.2	
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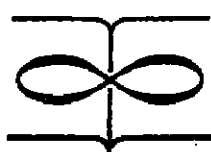
1985 High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
124.5	124.0	Deutsche Bank	212.5	+0.5	128	8.7	
124.5	124.0	First Nat Finance	17.5	-0.5	1.2	1.2	
124.5	124.0	Parsons (P)	17.5	-0.5	1.2	1.2	
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17	105%	Trans E	27	1998	111%	..	2.136	4.7
18	91%	Trans E	27	1998	58%	..	2.169	4.8
19	97%	Trans E	27	1998	110%	..	2.282	4.8
20	100%	Trans E	27	2001	55%	..	2.574	4.9
21	98%	Trans E	27	2003	39	..	2.926	5.0
22	99%	Trans E	27	2006	103%	..	2.513	3.4
23	98%	Trans E	27	2009	98%	..	2.915	3.5
24	101%	Trans E	27	2011	104%	..	2.835	3.7

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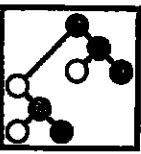


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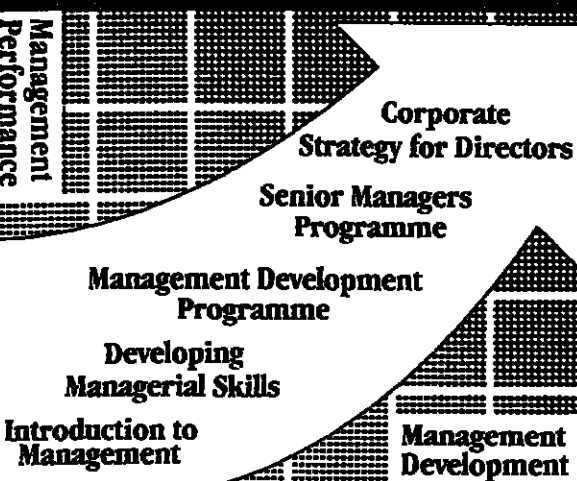
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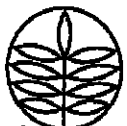
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EUROPEAN BUSINESS SCHOOLS 1

(SPECIAL REPORT)

By David Walker

Way ahead for the new businessman

The US State Department recently published a remarkable document listing almost 170 languages in which it said Americans were deficient. It caused surprise not so much because of the obscure west African tongues on it but the fact that it included major European languages. The document received wide coverage because it came at a time when Americans' their balance of trade in heavy deficit, their economy vulnerable to an outward flow of foreign investment - were suddenly aware of how far their once-insular economy has become "internationalized".

"There is a clear tendency in American business education for the injection of foreign-language learning for more outward-looking elements." This is the view of Sybren Tjimsma, secretary-general of the European Foundation for Management Development, and it is widely held.

The point is not merely that American business schools, for so long exemplars to the world for the professional training of managers, are now having to re-examine their methods and outlook, but that the United States may on this occasion have much to learn from Europe.

The American economy will have to readjust and so will American business schools. Mr Tjimsma says. Here is an opportunity for European schools a chance to recruit American students, to enter fruitful partnerships with American institutions, to offer the Americans examples of teaching and case work. In short, it is an opportunity to return the compliment America gave when, in the 1950s and 1960s,

the models of Harvard and Wharton were widely copied in Europe on the foundation of the major Swiss, French and British business schools.

Business education defined broadly has a long pedigree in Europe, at least as far back as the formation of Handelshochschulen in several German cities at the turn of the century, not long after Chicago's celebrated graduate school was set up, but graduate management education in Europe is a postwar creation. Staff from Harvard were intimately involved in founding Insead, the Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires, near Paris, and the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa at the University of Navarra in Barcelona.

It is remarkable that the big American schools did not attempt a wholesale colonization of Europe and set up branch institutes: a stream of Europe's best and brightest continued long after European business schools got under way to journey across the Atlantic to do graduate courses in Boston and New York.

American influence ran deep. Philip Sadler, principal of Ashridge Management College, points out that the language of international business is English; the major titles are English; even the lingua franca of the European Foundation for Management Development is (to the chagrin of the French) English. In other words, he says, the main intellectual currents have been American or perhaps Anglo-American.

But institutions such as Insead have made a deliberate effort at emancipation, continuing to use American teaching methods on its MBA programme but injecting a distinctive note by focussing on the



European co-operation: Academics who came together for an awards-commemoration ceremony at Middlesex Business School. From left, front row, Mr Mitcheson, head of business studies at Middlesex; Professors Schaeffer, Obieglo and Engler from West Germany; Dr R. Rickett, director, Middlesex Polytechnic; Professor Harper, MBS dean; and at the rear, Dr Tömmers, West Germany; Mr Earls, head of course, BA European Business Administration, and Mr Lamborelle, ESC centre, Rheims

particular problems encountered by European companies. Insead's location in France doubtless assisted this slight resentment at American influence.

Twenty five or more years after the foundation of the first generation of European business schools the sense of American primacy has all but disappeared. Mr Tjimsma points out that Europe can now offer the range of approaches from Harvard's focus on case studies to Chicago's rigorously quantitative approach to business problems. European schools have offered - much more than their American counterparts an emphasis on projects and work experience inside companies.

And it is at this point that the European schools realize

Where excitement is running high

Spain's entry to the European Community will, as tariffs fall and markets are freed, have a direct impact on the Iberian economy.

The indirect effects of Spain's entry are already noticeable in a business education. The European Business School, in co-operation with a Madrid group, is to develop a centre in the capital. From next year, students joining programmes at the school in London, Paris and Frankfurt will be offered a half year of courses and company experience in Spain.

Spain has not been cut off from the broad pattern of business education development in Europe: it claims the oldest master of business administration course in Europe. Yet there is a sense of excitement as Spanish institutions such as the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de la Empresa in Barcelona (IESE), San Sebastian, Bilbao and Seville, expand their involvement with sister colleges, students and companies elsewhere in Europe.

The excitement runs two ways. Spain has always been the European springboard into Latin America, and there are high hopes of connecting through Madrid and Lisbon with the relatively undeveloped field of management education in Brazil, Argentina, Colombia and the other Spanish-speaking countries.

Despite its recent agreement over terms of EEC membership, Spain has participated fully in the international movement since the mid-1950s to establish preparation for management in higher education.

The Spanish standard-bearer has been the IESE. "From the very beginning", says the school's head of research, Professor Pedro Nuño, "we saw that the world was heading towards an era of greater inter-country relationships."

Founded in 1958 to fill a gap in the Spanish system, the school looked to North America, establishing some five years later what it now calls a

"classical" MBA with the direct assistance of the Harvard Business School.

The two-year degree, based on case studies of business problems, is supervised by a committee of Harvard and IESE staff, most of whom are graduates of Harvard or other American schools.

But the American connexion has not ruled out - especially since 1979 - links outside the Spanish- and English-speaking worlds (though IESE does acknowledge it "is still not highly visible where there is no high concentration of Hispanics"). Recently IESE joined a consortium of leading European business schools in a common marketing effort.

The main impact of IESE has been at home and in Latin America. In Spain, it has run branch programmes in Madrid, San Sebastian, Bilbao and Seville. A focus of its work outside the MBA programme, has been research, work firmly rooted in the problems of Spanish business.

Remember, says Professor Nuño that at the time of IESE's foundation the Spanish economy was entering a period of alignment with that of the western world. He adds: "It was not a time for theoretical refinements on what has been done abroad but for trying to apply the already existing body of knowledge to actual and urgent problems."

Professor Carlos Cavalle, who has concentrated on manufacturing firms in his research, notes that in 1958 Spanish domestic demand was small, labour productivity was low, and industrial equipment was old.

IESE's graduate business programme is bilingual and the availability of English language tuition has helped maintain its links with the US, offering American students not only general education but an introduction to Hispanic language and business practice.

How to turn amateurs into professionals

Among explanations offered for Britain's comparatively poor economic performance, a recurring theme is the absence, at all levels and in all occupations, of training.

At one level - to paraphrase the recent report, *Competence and Competition*, published by the Manpower Services Commission and the National Economic Development Council - too many young people attempt to enter the labour market without a qualification. The UK, compared with industrial competitors in Europe or Japan or the US, provides much less vocational preparation, and it shows in a badly paid, less productive workforce.

At another level the absence of effective training for jobs merges with the British cult of the amateur - that there is something praiseworthy in the absence of formal qualification for managers.

The trouble is that amateurs get beaten. In the phrase of Professor Thomas Kempner, principal of Henley, the Management College, "British managers are not having the hell knocked out of them by other amateurs but by professionals". Britain's export performance shows it.

That is the allegation, and it usually prefaces an argument for extra spending, not just by the public sector, on training

and professional preparation. But it is far from self-evident.

For one thing, cross-national comparison is excruciatingly difficult whether of economic performance or educational systems. Indeed, the report *Competence and Competition* cites what happened when, after the war the Japanese adopted the US model for secondary education and yet there emerged schools scarcely comparable with those in Kansas City.

The reports said: "The cultural assumptions on which policy decisions are made are so different that the outcomes of even identical decisions in any two countries would almost certainly produce different results. This seems important because it highlights the danger of copying separate elements of someone else's system in the hope they will produce the same results in the UK."

Lying behind all this, too, is the assumption - rarely quantified - that education and training will have a direct effect on the way the economy works. Has Britain's economic performance improved in 1965 of the London and Manchester business schools?

There are doubters. Some people in fact blame the business schools for economic problems. Professor Kempner, in a recent

article, cites "a belief, widely held by British managers, that there are no business schools in the countries of some of our most successful competitors."

Professor Kempner, writing in the *Journal of General Management*, rebuts this. Take West Germany. It has few formal business schools. Its economic record is impressive. But that does not prove the "amateurs" case.

There are no MBA courses in West Germany but there is an array of programmes of general preparation for work in industry and commerce, many of them in the *Hochschulen*. The secret of German success lies in close cooperation between industry and the *Hochschulen* and the fact that their graduates have sophisticated, skilled expertise.

The case is strong, Professor Kempner concludes, less for the expansion of business and management studies by themselves but for some revolution in British attitudes towards vocational preparation.

Education for management in five countries: myth and reality by Thomas Kempner, *Journal of General Management* Vol 9 No 2 Winter 1983-84; Henley, the Management College, Greenlands, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 3ATL.

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(SPECIAL REPORT)

EUROPEAN BUSINESS SCHOOLS/2

A simple equation pays rich dividends

Peter Coen's equation is simple. Increasingly, large corporate business is European - the products sell simultaneously in the supermarkets of Lyons, Birmingham and Hanover. Business education has therefore to be European, which means multilingual and, so far as possible, free from the specifics of the national education systems.

The model, he says with the pride of a founding director, is the European Business School, a relatively new "three-headed" school - i.e. its students do not get diplomas unless in their four years they have become proficient in French, German and English, been taught business principles in those languages and acquired some knowledge of how companies operate in Britain, France and West Germany.

with business schools in other countries. In Britain, the non-university colleges have taken the lead in making foreign-language training an element in preparation for management. The Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education, for example, has an exchange programme with Osnabrück in West Germany. Middlesex Polytechnic runs a BA in European business administration with the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce in Rheims, and the Reutlingen Fachhochschule in West Germany.

Obviously, too, the international management programmes at Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires (Insead) require a command of French as well as English.

The EBS scheme, for example, for students in London, is to provide two years of general business education augmented by language teaching in French and German and in-company training periods (which add up over the four years to a total of nine months).

In the third year, students move to Frankfurt for general teaching in German and a period in a German firm - likewise half the year in Paris. In the last year in London teaching is more specialized.

The EBS branches have been relatively successful in winning local recognition. EBS Paris, which began with an intake of 12 students in 1967, now recruits some 180 a year and secured in 1976 the classification "cadre supérieur" from the French Government. This allows EBS to compete with other French institutions for a share of the learning tax applied to French companies to promote staff training.

Our students, graduating in their early twenties, are flexible

Mr Coen is director of the British end of the European Business School, its other campuses are in Paris and Frankfurt - with a fourth to open soon in Madrid. Paris began in 1967 but London only in 1980 and last year its first batch of students graduated.

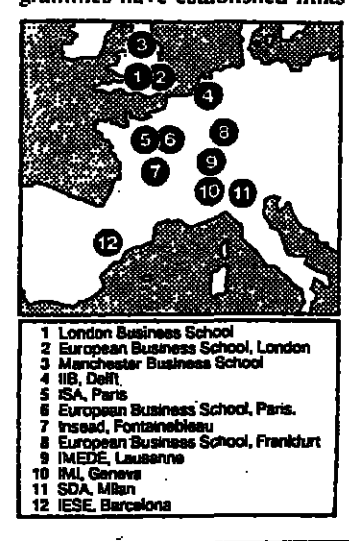
The case, Mr Coen says, with which they got jobs in reputable companies ranging from Marks & Spencer to Credit Suisse is a good sign that the London end of the EBS will prove as successful as its continental counterparts.

The EBS is none the less an interesting bid to create a multilateral environment for business education in that it appears to have succeeded in uncoupling its three arms from too detailed an involvement in the respective national educational systems without EBS itself floating off into pan-European abstraction.

It also illustrates that the maxim that those who cannot teach, is untrue: EBS is a not-for-profit organization but its growth bears the hallmarks of successful entrepreneurship. EBS itself would make a case study in successful business growth.

EBS differs from the graduate business schools in aiming its diploma between an undergraduate degree and the graduate qualification offered, say, by the London Business School or Insead to people in their mid-20s to late 20s who may already have entered a business career.

Mr Coen says: "Some say that the MBA or the graduate of Insead is too formed, perhaps a little inflexible. Our students, graduating in their early 20s are flexible and it has to be said will settle for lower salaries than older MBAs".



Both sides of the Channel: International students of Insead at a lecture at Fontainebleau and the elegant Henley Management College



The recruitment round

One Sunday in a hotel in Copenhagen student recruiters met for a seminar on MBA courses likely to attract Scandinavians.

As might be expected, the Americans were well represented with recruiters from the J. L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, an institution with a business pedigree going back to the early years of the century. It was then that Chicago businessmen, with that typical mixing of philanthropy and self-interest, founded a school to rival the new University of Chicago programme for business training. Student advisers from Columbia were also in Copenhagen, emphasizing the international character of Columbia and New York.

Rubbing shoulders with them, offering MBA courses equally rigorous and campus facilities as well endowed were the leading European graduate schools, signalling both the diversity available in the first rank of MBA programmes and how little there now remains of the tutelage once exercised by the Americans over the Europeans.

The European schools represented in Copenhagen were the London Business School, the Institut pour l'Etude de Methodes de Direction de l'Entreprise (Imede) de Lausanne, the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Empresa de Barcelona and Insead, the Institut Européen d'Administration des Affaires.

men" of the movement to establish in Europe graduate programmes which, modelled on the United States, reflected not just the different economic conditions of Europe but the needs of Europe-based firms.

The schools at Copenhagen are leaders of the pack. A fuller list of institutions would take in the Institut Supérieur des Affaires in France, Manchester Business School, Milan's Università Luigi Bocconi, the Interuniversitaire Interfaculteit Bedrijfskunde in Delft, CEI in Geneva born the Centre d'Etudes Industrielles now better known as the Institute for International Management (IMI). Several of these have joined in a common marketing effort, for the European MBA.

"Management education in Europe has now developed its own identity, in our view more suited to the needs of the European economic environment," says the brochure produced by seven European schools. "Recognition of quality of education provided has been firmly established and graduates of European management schools have an increasing influence at the highest levels."

That, of course, is slightly hyperbolic. Graduates of the top European schools find employment easily but it is premature to picture them as some kind of cadre of high fliers penetrating the management structure of Europe. For one thing, there is no such thing as a pan-European management structure - that is not how firms are organized. Movements of personnel are transatlantic as much as if not more than intra-European.

offered by Imede to graduates with some business experience in English and classes have sometimes included participants from 30 countries.

Both Imede, founded by Nestlé 27 years ago and IMI, which owes its birth to Alcan Aluminium, are linked with universities but retain a considerable academic autonomy. Their programmes of short courses for serving business executives provide a pool of knowledge about practical and contemporary business problems. Students from both institutions are presented with case studies on and off campus derived from the real world of big European firms such as Unilever and BASF.

Insead computes its attractiveness from the fact that at last graduation some 500 companies joined the recruitment "milk round" at its Fontainebleau campus. The rubric of Insead's year-long MBA course emphasizes that managers with substantial work experience ought to stand back from their jobs. Its course aims "not to turn out specialists but to provide the learning environment most conducive to making participants aware of the far-reaching changes affecting business decisions in Europe and around the world".

Both courses are linked with universities yet they retain an academic autonomy

Founded in 1950 at the instigation of the Paris Chamber of Commerce, Insead looked initially to Harvard. Since Insead has become rather jealous of its specifically Franco-European flavour, emphasizing its strict language requirement and unique course units such as that in European political analysis.

Like the Swiss schools, Insead cross-subsidizes, financially and intellectually, between its MBA programme and the short courses it runs for managers in post.

The European Centre for Continuing Education (CECE) is an association of 18 companies and Insead offering a series of in-service courses.

Since 1959, around 29 per cent of Insead's students have been French, with the UK, supplying the second largest contingent, 13 per cent. West Germans and students from the Benelux countries each made up 10 per cent.

Elsewhere in Europe, major business schools are international to the extent that they recruit a significant proportion of their student body from abroad, as at the Graduate School of Management in Rotterdam, where there is English language tuition, or they deliberately gear courses to provide a European flavour, while the London Business School provides an opportunity for exchange with the Hautes Etudes Commerciales at Versailles.

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EBS and Industry All students spend nine months working 'in company' during the four year course. This experience is broken down into four separate placements - at least one in each country. London graduates have therefore worked in France and Germany or Spain and have had the choice of working in several industrial and commercial sectors or specialising in, for example, European banks, advertising agencies or a single industry.

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More than 2,000 graduates of the EBS group now work in 35 countries. This is a network of future business leaders in Europe and throughout the world.

EBS London had 100% employment for its first graduates in 1984.

Admission to EBS The EBS London programme is open to those who have completed or are about to complete A levels or other equivalent examinations for university entrance (eg Dutch VWO, German Abitur, French Baccalauréat). Applicants should have the personal potential and motivation to become a successful international manager and a base in French and German or Spanish (weakness in one language can be considered if there is compensatory strength in the other). All applicants must sit the EBS General Entrance Test and attend for interview.

More than 1,000 students are currently enrolled in the EBS group with thirteen European countries being represented. EBS London is the most international with students from the UK, Holland, Belgium, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Iceland, Eire and Italy. Sixty places are available for entry to the first year in October 1985.

For further details on the EBS programme please telephone or return the coupon below to:-
Mrs Nicole McGilne, Registrar
European Business School
Glaucousier Building
The City University
Northampton Square
London EC1V 0HB
Tel: 01-837 2254/6

Please send me a prospectus ☐ fee sheet ☐
application form ☐

Name _____
Address _____
Tel (Home) _____
Tel (Work) _____

The EBS Programme

Year 1 London Accounting Behavioural Sciences Business Organisation Economics Law Quantitative Methods & Computing European Perspectives European Project German French	Year 2 London Finance Marketing Personnel Production French German European Perspectives European Project In-Company Training period
Year 3 Paris & Frankfurt French German Economics Law Marketing Finance International Business In-Company Training period	Year 4 London Business Policy International Business Computers for Management Marketing/Finance/Personnel Resource Management Dissertation In-Company Training period

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Trade 01-278 9161/5

Personal Assistant

c. £10,000

Hounslow

Our client is an expanding, progressive international company whose Managing Director requires a Personal Assistant to help him with the management of his business affairs.

Working in a stimulating commercial environment, you will deal with enquiries associated with domestic and foreign trade. You will be expected to provide a first class secretarial service and be responsible for the development of the company's public relations function. We are looking for an individual who possesses confidence, organisational ability and is self motivated. The successful candidate is unlikely to be under 25.

Please write, with CV, quoting ref. 302, to Mrs. Lynda Kennedy

DBA
ASSOCIATES LTD.

Management & Recruitment Consultants
19 Britton Street
London EC1M 5NQ
Tel: (01) 250 0003

High-Flying PA

£9,000

Our clients, PR consultants within the Motor Industry require a high-calibre PA to MD. This is a fast-moving, varied and absorbing position. You will need to process work quickly under pressure, handle client enquiries, lunches, conferences, marketing lunches etc. with cool aplomb. You should enjoy driving, and be willing to travel. Experience in PR, marketing or advertising is helpful, although not essential. Excellent presentation, good shorthand and fast, accurate typing are required. Age 24+. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

Gordon Yates Ltd.
35 Old Bond Street,
London W1
(Recruitment Consultants)

That's John over there isn't he gorgeous.

I was his PA last week

It was my 3rd assignment with Kingsway. Have you heard about their rates?

And their holiday bonus. Look, he's coming

Have you met my brother?



Everyone's talking about Kingsway. Shouldn't you be talking to us? Excellent temp assignments, W.P. cross training, top rates, regular reviews and a holiday bonus.

Talk to us now on 01-629 9863 (West End) and 01-836 9272 (City)

KINGSWAY
Temporary Staff Consultants

THE BRITISH PAPER AND BOARD INDUSTRY FEDERATION

Personal Assistant to Director General £9-£10,000 P.A.

Due to retirement, a vacancy now exists for a personal assistant to the Director General. The Director General is responsible for the management of the Federation, which is a major employer in the paper and board industry. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the Director General's diary, correspondence, and the preparation of reports and documents. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the management of the Federation's public relations and for the coordination of the Federation's activities. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position and to be a member of the Institution of Secretaries. Applications should be sent to the Director General, The British Paper and Board Industry Federation, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING

S. Wales c.£12,000

Perrell Group makes cash handling machines that are so clever that people think they're Japanese. In fact, they're Welsh and we aim to export them everywhere, including Japan. The MD needs an executive assistant to work with him on all aspects of promotion, PR, information and overseas distribution. The job will be exciting and rewarding for a mobile, motivated graduate who writes well, relates to people and technology and doesn't smoke. Experience in sales or marketing and linguistic ability, particularly in German, would be desirable.

The right candidate would be in line for a senior management position very soon. Please write, with full CV, to: Peter M. Flood, Group Recruitment Services, 9-11 The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 1NU.

SENIOR SECRETARY

£11,000 pa & usual benefits

International Consultants-London, Victoria

Our Client, a professional partnership, well established in the construction industry, requires a confidential secretary of outstanding ability & integrity for two partners in their London office.

The appointed person, aged 28/40 years, will be extremely competent in all secretarial duties, able to handle a wide range of both professional & private work. Essential to have the personality & temperament to work under pressure & to liaise with senior staff & clients.

Candidates are invited to send a CV giving personal details, qualifications, previous appointments, & details of office equipment used within their experience.

Applications will be treated with absolute confidence & should be submitted by 15th May quoting Ref Number 331. Interviews will be held in London from the 20th May.

MR A. C. Williams, W. & A. M. Limited, (Executive Search & Selection), 211 New Green Lane, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8NT. Telephone: 021-449 7128



Senior Secretaries

CITY 01-606 1001/WEST END 01-606 0002

The first numbers to ring

INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

Very busy organisation in Pall Mall has two vacancies for secretaries with A-level education and first class typing; shorthand useful.

MARKETING DIRECTOR: he needs someone to manage all the members' benefits and also to act as his secretary.

RECRUITMENT DIRECTOR: he is entirely responsible for the recruitment of new members to the Institute and needs an administrative secretary to help him with the various schemes for doing this.

Both posts require conscientious attention to detail, fluency on telephone, administrative ability and a liking for people.

Salary a.s.c., generous L.V.s, pension scheme, WPA, season ticket loan.

PLEASE RING PERSONNEL OFFICER 01-839 1233 (no agencies)

MANAGER & PERSONAL ASSISTANT

(Secretarial Services) West London to £12,250 p.a.

This is a new, imaginative and challenging opportunity in the U.K. headquarters of a major international organisation. The person appointed will have the responsibility for managing a comprehensive administration and reporting service to senior management in a busy operating division. Additional duties include acting as Personal Assistant to the Director of the Division.

Applications are invited from well-educated candidates, ideally into 25-30, with experience in administrative and reporting services, and a proven ability to manage a team of secretaries. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the Director's diary, correspondence, and the preparation of reports and documents. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the management of the Division's public relations and for the coordination of the Division's activities. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position and to be a member of the Institution of Secretaries. Applications should be sent to the Director of the Division, The Institute of Directors, 11, Bedford Square, London, W1P 8JS.

Write to the Managing Director, Institute of Directors, 11, Bedford Square, London, W1P 8JS.

Tel: 01-935 6581

DeMAIN

CONSULTANTS LTD.

PERSONNEL PA

One of London's top stores requires a PA Secretary, aged early 20s, who will reflect their image. Assisting dynamic personnel executive, £23,000 + excellent benefits package.

CREATIVE SECRETARY

A firm for colour coordination, good shorthand and typing, and an Arts background are needed for Marketing Director of a small retail company, £25,000 + product discount.

Telephone: 631 4878

FIRST JOB?

We have a variety of stimulating jobs for graduate secretaries looking for their first appointment. Jobs in education, publishing, house PR, design, commodity trading. If you have gained good shorthand/typing skills and you would like some advice to help you make your first career step, then call us today.

SECOND JOB?

If you have been working as a secretary for 12 months, you may be ready to make a move. A number of our clients are looking for exceptional graduate secretaries - with or without shorthand - for vacancies in a wide variety of fields. Whatever the sort of job you are looking for, we can help.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS

01-629 7262

7 Princes St., W.1.

PA Secretary

with Wang £10,000

This prestigious successful firm requires a well organised person who can support the main board Managing Director, even deputise in his absence and provide him with a full back-up service. Our Client is prepared to Cross Train and develop your skills on the Wang system.

OFFICE MANAGEMENT CENTRE

115 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2

01-439 4001

Ask Alfred Marks

Senior Shorthand Sec PA for personnel

A career minded flexible person required to work for MD of a Swedish owned company. Professional Secretary with previous senior director level experience. A rewarding position dealing with recruitment, training and supervision of other secretaries. Travel expenses paid after six months. Skills required 100/80. Salary £9,000.

Phone Kate Wood on 734 0157

ALFRED MARKS

Recruitment Consultants

£11,000 pa FRENCH SPEAKING PA

To look after a very busy, charming MD who will need the support of your superb organising skills, your ability to communicate with clients and colleagues, fluent French and fast shorthand and typing. Excellent conditions in the City. Large company benefits.

01-370 5066

Hendersons

RECRUITMENT

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY/PA

Experienced secretary with shorthand & audio and good administrative skills. Modern office in S. Croydon, Kent. Age 28. Salary £23,000.

Tel: Mrs Grove 01-880 3822

SEC/CONFERENCE ORG

£6,740

Unique opportunity to get away from the desk and enjoy some UK travel when you arrange and attend conferences and courses, for famous training organization in SW1. You need energy, and 'sparkle' to organize delegates, arrange venues, speakers and promotional material. You need decent typing (45wpm) and a good brain. Promotion prospects brilliant. People dynamic. Age 18+. Ring Jenn Jones

LOVE + TATE Rec. Cons. 488 9424

RECEPTION £8,500++

For large Int. Co. in W.1. Age 21-32, exp. Monmouth 120 Switchboard or similar. Typing 50+. 5/hand helpful, knowledge French, Spanish or German an asset.

Grade One Appointments 01-734 5268

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST/TYPIST

Required for busy sales office of large public company near Waterloo Station. Must have excellent skills with PABX 4X18 switchboard. Smart appearance and outgoing personality essential. £8,500 p.a., £7,500-£8,500 A.A.E., plus quarterly bonus. One visit to W. Wickham only for 1st interview.

14 High Street, West Wickham, Kent

Business Services Tel: (01) 776 0491

PROMOTIONAL MARKETING SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Intelligent and experienced person needed as Secretary to Manager of European group of promotional agencies. Typing, shorthand and audio must be impeccable. Day to day European contact and reporting; handling travel arrangements; liaising with clients and agencies. Must have experience as confidential secretary to senior manager. Some knowledge of marketing or sales promotion an advantage. Increasing responsibilities for person with initiative and energy. Salary up to £9,000. Call or write Jim Cuffey, Cate Johnson, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, NW1 7QF. 380 6333.

PA to Finance Director

£9,000 p.a. You are probably in your mid-20s you enjoy working under pressure and you prefer working in a small close-knit team. You will also have a strong background in secretarial skills. A fast-paced, busy environment with many opportunities for advancement. And you are probably looking for a new challenge. We are a major public company offering the excitement and stimulation which goes hand-in-hand with our growth. It's an environment which is sure to find you! If we've described what you are looking for then please contact us. 01-588 3383 Or write to her at: Accountancy Personnel 63/65 Moor gate, London, EC2.

FLUENT FRENCH & THE DIAMOND DIET

£9,000-£10,000

The Chairman of this International Hotel Gardens based organisation has many business, diplomatic and private commitments. Life for his PA will be an intriguing non-stop activity with all his interests. You will use your excellent French skills (100/80) and your fluent French, the work will interest someone aged around 27 with high level experience. If you're on a diet you may not get full benefit from the excellent office lunches!

174 New Bond Street

International Secretaries

01-629 1233

FINE WINES

£8,500+

Efficient Organiser needed to arrange promotions, wine tastings and lunches for this Fine Wines Co. in Mayfair. Working as Secretary to the M.D. and P.R. Director you'll also be supervising junior staff. Lots of contact with sales force and clients. Speeds 90/80 required.

22 SOUTH MILTON ST. W1 (REG. CONS)

023 3882 023 9630

PERSONNEL

£7,500

Bright young Secretary to help out in Personnel Department of this large international company. Varied duties include sending out application forms, and lots of administration. Good audio typing required.

22 SOUTH MILTON ST. W1 (REG. CONS)

023 3882 023 9630

Team minded Secretary

To £9,000

A recent promotion within this successful international W.C.2 company, has opened the door for an experienced Shorthand Secretary to join the Head of Production. Age 21+ with shorthand and keyboard skills that won't let you down under pressure. You will enjoy a full secretarial role, which is highlighted by extensive liaison with manufacturing customers across the U.K. Up to the minute equipment and a young team environment guarantees a far from routine day.

Please telephone: Rosalee Prescott.

01-836 4086

Personal Assistant

£11,000 neg

Assume a true PA role and use your senior level experience to the full in this friendly Co. near Liverpool. You'll work with this easy-going international Sales Secretary who will expect you to take over the department in his frequent absences abroad, so you must be extremely efficient, flexible and able to take full control on your own initiative. Excellent secretarial skills are a must, as is a strong WP experience - but this demanding position will test your admin skills to the full. £25,000 + excellent benefits.

01-493 8583

STELLA FISHER

18 Strand WC2 0L-836 8844

TOP NOTCH

£9,750 + Benefits

If the utmost involvement of working for the Chief Executive of this large and well established firm of international accountants with world-wide offices appeals, you will need to be confident, highly efficient, and used to dealing with top level executives. You should have minimum skills of 100/80 and audio, some exp. and have experience in a professional environment. South West West End office. Age 27-45.

434 4512

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

PA/SECRETARY

£23,000 p.a.

Apply to SH to run training services office in Chelsea. WP (full time) flexible hours. Tel. Sam Clark

(01) 351 4335 after 1pm.

RECEPTION £8,500++

For large Int. Co. in W.1. Age 21-32, exp. Monmouth 120 Switchboard or similar. Typing 50+. 5/hand helpful, knowledge French, Spanish or German an asset.

Grade One Appointments 01-734 5268

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST/TYPIST

Required for busy sales office of large public company near Waterloo Station. Must have excellent skills with PABX 4X18 switchboard. Smart appearance and outgoing personality essential. £8,500 p.a., £7,500-£8,500 A.A.E., plus quarterly bonus. One visit to W. Wickham only for 1st interview.

14 High Street, West Wickham, Kent

Business Services Tel: (01) 776 0491

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Intelligent and experienced person needed as Secretary to Manager of European group of promotional agencies. Typing, shorthand and audio must be impeccable. Day to day European contact and reporting; handling travel arrangements; liaising with clients and agencies. Must have experience as confidential secretary to senior manager. Some knowledge of marketing or sales promotion an advantage. Increasing responsibilities for person with initiative and energy. Salary up to £9,000. Call or write Jim Cuffey, Cate Johnson, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, NW1 7QF. 380 6333.

PA to Finance Director

£9,000 p.a. You are probably in your mid-20s you enjoy working under pressure and you prefer working in a small close-knit team. You will also have a strong background in secretarial skills. A fast-paced, busy environment with many opportunities for advancement. And you are probably looking for a new challenge. We are a major public company offering the excitement and stimulation which goes hand-in-hand with our growth. It's an environment which is sure to find you! If we've described what you are looking for then please contact us. 01-588 3383 Or write to her at: Accountancy Personnel 63/65 Moor gate, London, EC2.

AD AGENCY MD

PA/Sec £10,000

Strong, up-market PA able to assist confidently with many clients and cope with numerous responsibilities in an eminent business-like manner.

FILM/TV MD

PA/Sec £7,500 neg.

Interesting job involved with popular TV programmes. MD will delegate as much as possible. Lots of contact with the Stars.

IDEAL SECOND POST FOR

young Secretary / PA working for Ad Manager & Assistant Editor expanding financial magazine based in Westminster. Speeds 90/60, eye for detail, WP experience an asset. Electronic typewriter essential. BUPA, L.V.s, season ticket loan. Salary neg plus annual bonus. Start June / July. Please ring Harriet Spencer on 222 0288 or write with C.V.

B & C International

21 Topham St, London SW18 1SL

AD AGENCY MD

PA/Sec £10,000

Strong, up-market PA able to assist confidently with many clients and cope with numerous responsibilities in an eminent business-like manner.

FILM/TV MD

PA/Sec £7,500 neg.

Interesting job involved with popular TV programmes. MD will delegate as much as possible. Lots of contact with the Stars.

"Recruitment Specialists to the Communications and Electronics Industries since 1959"

Pathfinders

PERSONNEL SERVICES

At London Office Tel: 01-629 2532

CITY BONUS

Excellent opportunity for City slickers where the highest standards are required. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the Director's diary, correspondence, and the preparation of reports and documents. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the management of the Division's public relations and for the coordination of the Division's activities. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position and to be a member of the Institution of Secretaries. Applications should be sent to the Director of the Division, The City Bonus, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

Bernadette of Bond St.

Recruitment Consultants

No.55, (next door to Fenchurch) 01-629 1204

Ask Alfred Marks

Shorthand Secretary with WP experience

Working for one of the World's largest Fin. Act. dealers, dealing with research, computation and stock, meeting clients and helping to organise auctions. Ideal opportunity for a graduate or college leaver with previous shorthand. Salary £8,000 neg. Please Kate Wood

01-734 0157

ALFRED MARKS

Recruitment Consultants

£21,000++ Mortgage subsidy etc.

Executive Director International City Bank urgently needs a SECRETARY / PA / ASSISTANT in Capital Markets area. Naturally you will have the capabilities, skills (100/75), confidence and banking experience for a demanding post in this level. Financial and job satisfaction rewards will be excellent. Age 25-35. Benefits: Free travel, business etc.

01-438 1551/2853

Dulcie Simpson

Recruitment Consultants

INVESTMENT IN W1 WITH FRENCH c. £10,000

Small subsidiary of a major Corporation well middle Eastern interests needs an executive secretary for the managing director. Visited successfully. Includes research into financial institutions, an establishment of a Database, liaison with group offices in Paris, Bahrain and New York, administration and all secretarial support, (80/80) audio. This is a challenging opportunity for an intelligent graduate with previous secretarial experience and conversational French essential. Age 25-40. Please ring.

01-286 1118 (24 hours) PORTMAN RECRUITMENT SERVICES

Chartered Surveyor, newly formed Company requires efficient

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

with good audio typing skills, capable of handling a wide range of client relationships. Great opportunities to develop your own areas of responsibility. 80/80 skills needed.

City 01-236 3712 West End 01-499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Trade 01-278 9161/5

MARKETING PA
This is a rare opportunity to join a young dynamic marketing team. You will be responsible for product launches, sales and marketing of a new product. If you have a degree in Marketing, Sales or Business Administration, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
£2,000 p.a.
Public Relations Manager of well known international company. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

MARKETING/ PUBLICITY
The Good Book Guide needs an experienced, energetic secretary to help market the Guide worldwide and coordinate the office. You will be responsible for all marketing and publicity work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Marketing, Sales or Business Administration, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

TRAIN IN PR £2,000
Looking for the first step out of school? Do you want to be trained in the world of PR? This dynamic team offers a 3 year training programme. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

START UP SITUATION/ P.A.
£10,000
An opportunity for a professional to start up a new business. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

DESIGN c. £9,000
This is a rare opportunity to join a young dynamic marketing team. You will be responsible for product launches, sales and marketing of a new product. If you have a degree in Marketing, Sales or Business Administration, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

OIL DRILLING SERVICE COMPANY
require Secretary with shorthand and an ability for figures. Work in small office. Salary according to age and experience. Please apply to **ANCHOR SERVICES**, 295 REGENT ST, LONDON W1. 01-580 9067 (no agencies)

CJES
P.A. TO SENIOR RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
£5,000 - £8,000
We are looking for well-qualified secretaries, who have completed a sound secretarial training and achieved good shorthand and typing speeds, to join a leading firm of international recruitment consultants. The successful candidate will have broad ranging responsibilities, including arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone follow up with clients and candidates. Friendly offices, excellent salary and benefits, plus profit sharing incentive scheme, providing remuneration of £5,000 - £8,000. Applications in strict confidence under reference 01-278 9161/5 to the Managing Director.

ESTATE AGENTS
Smart intelligent secretary needed for estate agents in W14. Accounts & well presented typing essential. Some audio, no shorthand. Opportunity to become involved in all aspects of agency work.
CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE
Christow, Haringey & Worsley
110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ
01-493 0388

POP MUSIC
£7,000
Top music management company is looking for a bright, attractive Receptionist for their new West End office. If you have a degree in Music, Business Administration, or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

HAMPSTEAD
£9,000
Administrative Secretary (no shorthand) needed to run a small, photographic library. Good typing, excellent shorthand, must cope happily with deadlines. Age 20-30 years. Tel: 01-493 0388.

SUPERB OPPORTUNITY
£21,000
Young Audio Secretary
Small dynamic firm of Management Consultants in W1 needs organised, capable, enthusiastic secretary to run their office. Your impeccable skills, administrative flair and good telephone manner will be rewarded with excellent salary and prospects.
Phone Malinda Lucas 01-499 0767 to discuss your requirements.

EVENTFUL CAREER
£9,000
Co-ordinate and organise social events for blue chip clients of a leading firm of Management Consultants. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

SECRETARY/PA
City insurance company seeks experienced English/German secretary/PA for Managing Director.
English / German shorthand essential.
Salary negotiable.
Box 0903 W, The Times.

£10,000 A BORN ORGANISER
As PA to the Chairman of a small property group in SW1 you will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

SECRETARY / RECEPTIONIST
A Secretary/Receptionist is required for a leading firm of international recruitment consultants. The successful candidate will have broad ranging responsibilities, including arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone follow up with clients and candidates. Friendly offices, excellent salary and benefits, plus profit sharing incentive scheme, providing remuneration of £5,000 - £8,000. Applications in strict confidence under reference 01-278 9161/5 to the Managing Director.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Required for Marketing and Sales. This is a rare opportunity to join a young dynamic marketing team. You will be responsible for product launches, sales and marketing of a new product. If you have a degree in Marketing, Sales or Business Administration, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£11,500 - W.2
Dynamic Chairman of this highly successful Public Company needs a first class, energetic and efficient PA. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

SECRETARY
£2,500
Well-qualified mature Secretary with extensive experience in a large company. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

ENG/ITALIAN PA/SEC
To £10,000 neg W1
Major Italian group, setting up new subsidiary office in London. PA/Sec. to be based in London. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

SECRETARY P.A.
Super efficient hard working experienced Secretary P.A. to work for a leading firm of international recruitment consultants. The successful candidate will have broad ranging responsibilities, including arranging appointments, maintaining records and telephone follow up with clients and candidates. Friendly offices, excellent salary and benefits, plus profit sharing incentive scheme, providing remuneration of £5,000 - £8,000. Applications in strict confidence under reference 01-278 9161/5 to the Managing Director.

Parish Secretary
competent, mature secretary/secretary for busy Parish Office in Central London. All duties will be the same as in a large office. People and schedule. Attractive salary and benefits. Please apply to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

Senior Partner of Surveyors
requires **SECRETARY**
with good personality. Short-hand, 1000 typing 50. Salary £9,000. Please apply to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

PA/SEC.
To manage Director.
£2,000
Small busy office in Wembley. Work is varied and demanding. Applicants must be energetic and have good typing skills.
Tel: (01) 903 9021

P.A.
Required for the Chairman of a fast expanding public company based in Covent Garden. The successful candidate must be young, energetic, enthusiastic and with an extrovert personality. Must be able to work under pressure. £8,000+. Please ring Linda on 01-379 5226 or 836 6031.

Crone Corkill
also on page 30

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY
£10,500-£12,000
Become totally involved in both the personal and business work of the Director of a large City financial group. You will be responsible for all public relations and media work. You will be working closely with the company's senior management. If you have a degree in Public Relations, Journalism or a related field, and are a team player, we would like to hear from you. Please send your CV to: **DRAKE PERSONNEL**, 110 Blythe Road, W14 6EJ. Tel: 01-493 0388.

WEST END SOLICITORS
Require Senior Secretary for their small prestigious W1 office. Interesting work and attractive salary, for someone with experience in a law firm. Previous law firm experience not essential. For full details please telephone: 01-636 8273

DEMI-CRÈME
Would you like to work 2 days a week in a small private management office near St James Square?
Salary negotiable.
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(University of London)
SECRETARY
required to work for Head of Department of Biology. Duties include typing correspondence, scientific papers and reports and a wide range of other secretarial responsibilities. Accurate Shorthand/Typing essential. Knowledge of word processing useful but not essential.
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Coffee AM**.
6.50 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough, Sue Cook, Nick Ross and Sue Cook. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55; news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; sport at 7.20 and 8.20. A V Day 40th Anniversary Special edition includes Nick Ross in Whitman with people who took part in the events of 40 years ago; Vera Lynn singing songs of 1945; three episodes of the Jane Fonda cartoon; and reports from Russia, East and West Germany and the Channel Islands. At 8.05 Selma and Russell Grant are at the Movers Street party with Humphrey Lyttelton.
- 9.55 **Play School**.
10.15 **Breakfast Time** continued with Frank Bough among the crowds outside Westminster Abbey as politicians and members of the Royal Family arrive for a service of commemoration.
- 11.15 **The Service**. The Queen with the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother and other members of the Royal Family attend a service commemorating the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. The service is conducted by the Dean of Westminster and the sermon is preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- 12.35 **Images of War**. A film by Mike Lewis of the heroic attempt to capture the Arnhem Bridge (r).
12.55 **The Day We Won the War**. A preview of the programme to be shown on television at 9.25.
- 1.00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale includes President Reagan's address to the European Parliament.
- 2.00 **News** from Chester. Julian Wilson introduces four races: the Philip Morris Nickel Alloy Stakes (2.15); the Cheshire Regent Handicap (2.45); the Ladbrokes Chester Cup (3.15); and the Cheshire Oaks (3.45). 3.55 **Regional news** (not London).
- 3.55 **Lay on Five**, presented by Fionna Benjamin, 4.10 **The Wombles** (r), 4.15 **The Biskitts**, 4.35 **Take Two** discusses Wogan with the chair of the show, Frances Whitaker, 5.00 **John Craven's Newsround**.
- 5.05 **Duncan Dances**. Peter Duncan joins a Commando Yomp - a 30 mile march across rugged country.
- 5.35 **Gloria**. An unsuspecting Gloria becomes the stuff of one young man's dreams.
- 6.00 **News** with Nicholas Witchell and Philip Hayton. Weather.
- 6.35 **London Plus**.
7.00 **Wogan**. The guests are Debbie Greenwood, Brian Glover, Robert White, Jimmy Boyle and Dr Hook.
- 7.40 **Hilary**. Comedy series starring Marti Caine as a television researcher (r).
8.10 **Dallas**. J. R. discovers that money cannot buy everything (Cee-fax).
- 9.00 **News** with Julia Somerville. Weather.
- 9.35 **The Day We Won the War**. A moving documentary of how Britons remember the ending of the Second World War, beginning with memories of the German surrender from Lord Scrampton. Others recall the celebrations in the streets; the horrors discovered in a concentration camp; and a group of war widows explain why they wanted the war to go on for ever.
- 10.45 **Sportslink** includes a salute to Football League champions Everton; highlights from Leicester's UEFA Cup final, first leg; and a report on Ian Botham's Somerset who today began a three-day game against the Australians.
- 11.50 **Weather**.

TV-am

- 6.15 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 8.30 and 9.15. Popeye cartoon at 7.23. This special V Day anniversary edition includes a street party, heroic and happy tales of 40 years ago; a report from Jersey, and guests who include Anne Shilton, Douglas Fairbanks Jr, Spike Milligan and Vera Lynn with a message from Norway.
- 9.25 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Tales from Fat Tulip's Garden**. The story of a girl and Old Rubbish, 9.35 **Our Backyard**.
- 9.50 **Victory Remembered: How We Used to Live**. Two episodes from the award-winning children's series - Blitz and Victory. 10.30 **Setting the Scene**. Sir Alastair Burnet and Pam Armstrong preview the day's celebrations.
- 11.10 **VE Day service** from Westminster Abbey. Live coverage of the service from Westminster Abbey, attended by the Queen with the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother and other members of the Royal Family. 12.30 **Coverage** of the day's special events in other parts of the world and of a service in Hyde Park attended by survivors of the Holocaust.
- 1.00 **News at One** and weather headlines. 1.30 **President Reagan's address** to the European Parliament.
- 1.50 **The Story of the End of the War**. A dramatic account of the Allied Armies swept through France, the Netherlands and Germany, to link up with the Russians on the Elbe.
- 2.45 **Live from the Channel Islands**. The celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Channel Islands. 4.00 **Tales from Fat Tulip's Garden**. A repeat of the programme shown at 9.25.
- 4.15 **Crystal Pits** and **Alistair**. Animated series 4.20 **Fraggle Rock**, 4.50 **News** with Nicholas Witchell. Top music programme presented by Alistair Pitt and Zoe Brown. 5.15 **Connections**. Schoolchildren's quiz game. 5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**. 6.25 **Help Vi Taylor** Gee with news of the priority areas to which funds raised by this year's Thames Television will be allocated.
- 6.35 **Crossroads**. A terrible decision faces Jill Chance. 7.00 **Victory Remembered**. Highlights of today's VE Day celebrations.
- 7.30 **Coronation Street**. Terry Duckworth is outwitted over the car by Kevin Webster and Curly Watts (Cee-fax).
- 8.00 **This is Your Life**. For the last time in the present series. Eamonn Andrews emotionally makes an unsuspecting worthy.
- 9.00 **Widows**. The final episode of the drama serial and the moving documentary of how Britons remember the ending of the Second World War, beginning with memories of the German surrender from Lord Scrampton. Others recall the celebrations in the streets; the horrors discovered in a concentration camp; and a group of war widows explain why they wanted the war to go on for ever.
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- 11.50 **Weather**.

BBC 2

- 6.30 **Open University: How Electricity is Generated**. 8.55 **Music and Images**. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 **Cee-fax**.
- 9.10 **Ghanbar**. Magazine programme for the Asian viewer. This week's edition includes a discussion about the aims of Ankur, an Asian youth service in the London Borough of Brent.
- 9.30 **Daytime on Two: Forests and Trees**. 10.00 **For the very young**. 10.15 **Maths: CSE** - maths at work. 10.40 **Packaging problems** for 10-12 year-olds. 10.45 **Cee-fax**. 11.00 **Words and pictures**. 11.17 **Statistics**. 11.30 **The effect of the Industrial Revolution on Birmingham and Manchester**. 12.05 **Spanish conversation**. 12.30 **Cee-fax**. 1.20 **For the very young**. 1.38 **The farmers of St Lucia** who grow bananas for the British market. 2.00 **Louise Hall-Taylor** goes shopping in St. Lucia. 2.15 **Science workshop** - for the hearing impaired. 2.40 **The mysteries of plants**.
- 3.00 **Cee-fax**. 3.05 **News Summary** with subtitles. 5.35 **Antur Negus Enjoys Chateaufort House**, near Bakewell, Derbyshire, in the company of Simon Bull (r). 6.00 **Film: Tall Man Riding** (1955) starring Randolph Scott and Dorothy Malone. Larry Madson returns to his little river home to find himself in the middle of a range war between the father of his former sweetheart and a gambler who wants the rancher's land. Directed by Lesley Selander.
- 6.25 **100 Great Sporting Moments**. The extraordinary performances of the Romanian gymnast, Nadia Comaneci, at the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. 6.50 **James Selinger** discusses the rise to fame of Jesse Jackson and Little Richard explains his conversion to Christianity for the second time.
- 8.05 **Timewatch: The Battle for Berlin**. Charles Wheeler recalls how the Russian Army fought its last and bloodiest battle of the Second World War when it captured Berlin. Previously unseen film of the fighting and the aftermath. 9.00 **News** with Nicholas Witchell. 9.35 **Wogan**. The guests are Debbie Greenwood, Brian Glover, Robert White, Jimmy Boyle and Dr Hook.
- 10.00 **News** with Nicholas Witchell and Philip Hayton. Weather.
- 10.45 **Sportslink** includes a salute to Football League champions Everton; highlights from Leicester's UEFA Cup final, first leg; and a report on Ian Botham's Somerset who today began a three-day game against the Australians.
- 11.50 **Weather**.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.15 **Their Lordships' House**. A repeat of last week's programme of highlights from the House of Lords.
- 2.30 **Film: Riding High** (1950) starring Bing Crosby and Colleen Gray. The story of a happy-go-lucky Dan Brooks who gives up his secure job and breaks off an engagement to an heiress in order to train a horse to win the Kentucky Derby. Directed by Frank Capra.
- 4.30 **News**. 4.55 **News**. 5.00 **News**. 5.15 **News**. 5.30 **News**. 5.45 **News**. 6.00 **News**. 6.15 **News**. 6.30 **News**. 6.45 **News**. 7.00 **News**. 7.15 **News**. 7.30 **News**. 7.45 **News**. 8.00 **News**. 8.15 **News**. 8.30 **News**. 8.45 **News**. 9.00 **News**. 9.15 **News**. 9.30 **News**. 9.45 **News**. 10.00 **News**. 10.15 **News**. 10.30 **News**. 10.45 **News**. 11.00 **News**. 11.15 **News**. 11.30 **News**. 11.45 **News**. 12.00 **News**. 12.15 **News**. 12.30 **News**. 12.45 **News**. 1.00 **News**. 1.15 **News**. 1.30 **News**. 1.45 **News**. 2.00 **News**. 2.15 **News**. 2.30 **News**. 2.45 **News**. 3.00 **News**. 3.15 **News**. 3.30 **News**. 3.45 **News**. 4.00 **News**. 4.15 **News**. 4.30 **News**. 4.45 **News**. 5.00 **News**. 5.15 **News**. 5.30 **News**. 5.45 **News**. 6.00 **News**. 6.15 **News**. 6.30 **News**. 6.45 **News**. 7.00 **News**. 7.15 **News**. 7.30 **News**. 7.45 **News**. 8.00 **News**. 8.15 **News**. 8.30 **News**. 8.45 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